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MINUTES

OF THE BOARD OF

TRUSTEES

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT

FUND

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA.

VOLUME IV.

Published under authority of Trustees by
WILLIAM M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary and Treasurer.

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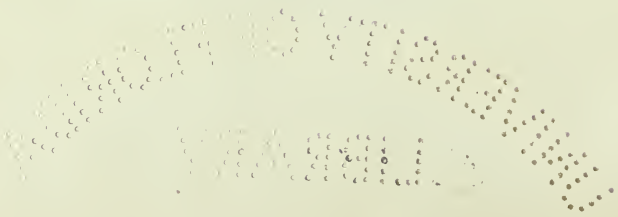

MINUTES.

Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvemen t Fund of the State of Florida.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 9, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Dr. E. S. Crill, Treasurer of the I. I. Fund, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and on motion of F. J. Pons, William M. McIntosh, Jr., was unanimously elected Treasurer; and on further motion he was required to enter into bond for the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars, with two good and sufficient sureties, for the faithful discharge of his duties as such Treasurer.

W. D. Barnes tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board, and on motion, William M. McIntosh, Jr., was unanimously elected Secretary.

It was ordered that the salary of the Treasurer and Secretary be fixed at Eight hundred dollars ($800.00) per annum, for discharging the duties of both offices, to be paid quarterly.

On motion, W. D. Barnes, Comptroller, and F. J. Pons, Treasurer, were appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the retiring Treasurer and make report to the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. D. BARNES, Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

59405

Tallahassee, Fla., January 10, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The bond of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., as Treasurer of the I. I. Fund, was tendered and accepted, and is as follows:

State of Florida,
County of Leon.

Know all men by these presents, That we, W. M. McIntosh, Jr., as principal, and Robert Munro and James Munro, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto Frank P. Fleming, Governor of the State of Florida, and to his successors in office, for the use, benefit and protection of all whom it may at any time or does concern, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, for the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Signed and sealed this ninth day of January, A. D. 1889.

The condition of this obligation is such, that, whereas, the said W. M. McIntosh, Jr., has been appointed and elected Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of said State.

Now, if the said W. M. McIntosh, Jr., shall in all things faithfully and promptly perform and discharge his duties as Treasurer of such Board of Trustees, then this obligation shall become void, but otherwise remain of full force and virtue.

Witness our hands and seals the day and year above written.

Signed and sealed in the presence of J. R. Combs, W. F. Quaile.

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., (Seal)
ROBERT MUNRO. (Seal)
JAMES MUNRO. (Seal)

The following resolution was offered and adopted: Resolved, That hereafter regular meetings of the Trustees be held on the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesdays of

each month, and that notice to that effect be published in the "Times-Union" of Jacksonville and in the "Floridian" and "Tallahasseean" at Tallahassee once a week for two months.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. D. BARNES, Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 12, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Comptroller Barnes offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture, be and he is hereby declared to be the Salesman of this Board.

Bills for postage, etc., for use of Salesman's office, amounting to twenty-nine dollars, were read and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 15, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts and vouchers of Hon. E. S. Crill, the retiring Treasurer of the Board, made the following report, which was adopted.

Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 15th, 1889.

To the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida:

Your committee appointed to examine the accounts of

Hon. E. S. Crill, Treasurer of the I. I. Fund, beg leave to report that they have examined the vouchers for expenditures made by him and find that they correspond with the credits on his books and that he has receipts from W. M. McIntosh, Jr., present Treasurer, for the balance of funds on hand.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. PONS, Treasurer,

W. D. BARNES, Comptroller.

Resolved, That the report of the committee be received, and that the thanks of the Board be tendered to the Hon. Edward S. Crill, for the faithful and satisfactory manner in which he has discharged his duties as Treasurer of the Board for the last four years, and that his bond as such Treasurer be surrendered to him.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 16, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Mr. M. H. Wood appeared before the Board and submitted a proposition to purchase certain lands in Townships Five and Six South of Range Fifteen East in Suwannee County, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. After considering the matter the Board decided to postpone final action until tomorrow.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 17, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The Board resumed the consideration of the proposition of H. M. Wood to purchase certain lands in Suwannee County. Mr. Pons offered the following resolution which was adopted: Resolved, That H. M. Wood be allowed to purchase nine hundred and sixty acres or more of land in townships five and six south, range fifteen east, at fifty cents per acre less than the schedule prices heretofore fixed by the Board.

A letter was read from the Sheriff of Coolumbia County informing the Board that he had reason to believe that trespassers had cut timbers on I. I. Lands in said County; Whereupon General Barnes offered the following resolution, which was adopted: Resolved, That the Salesman of the Board be instructed to direct the Sheriff of Columbia County to make a thorough investigation of the trespass, with power to employ a surveyor to ascertain the lands upon which the trespass was made and report to the Board.

The attention of the Board was called to an advertisement in the Jacksonville Times-Union, offering for sale certain lands under a decree of the U. S. Circuit Coourt against the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company, which were known as swamp lands, and which belong to the State of Florida, and persons holding thereunder, and not to said Southern Inland Navigation Company. The deed under which said company formerly claimed the land having been declared void by the U. S. District Court. Whereupon, it was, on motion of General Barnes, Resolved, That Governor Fleming be authorized to employ Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, to take the necessary legal steps to prevent the sale of said lands, and to represent the Board in such other cases as are now pending requiring prompt attention.

The Secretary presented and read a letter from Hon. C. M. Cooper relative to suits pending against and on behalf of the Board, and said letter was ordered spread upon the minutes, and is as follows:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Jany. 14th, 1889.

Hon. W. D. Barnes, Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund:

Dear Sir:

In accordance with instructions before received from such trustees, I filed, just before the late administration went out of office, a bill in Chancery in Duval Circuit Court for such Trustees, against the Florida Central and Peninsular Company, and H. R. Duval as Receiver of the Florida Railway and Navigation Company's Railway, for sinking fund on Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central and Florida R. R., and to have delivered up or cancelled Florida Rail Road bonds, which Mr. Henderson, you will remember, once acknowledged in the presence of the Board should be delivered to the Trustees. The Sheriff called on me today for instructions as to serving subpoena in the case, but as my connection with this, and all other litigation of said fund with which I was connected, was only as one of the Trustees and acting for the Board as solicitor only on account of my membership, I do not feel that I have any authority or responsibility in connection with any such litigation.

I told the Sheriff that I would write at once to the Board and call their attention to the matter, and they could have him instructed.

I also call to the attentiono of the Board that the suit against said Board and others by the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company is pending in the Supreme Court on appeal. The bill was dismissed by the Court below, where I represented the Trustees, and said company has appealed to the Supreme Court.

There is also some litigation of said trustees pending in the United States Court, and there are one hundred and three (103) bonds in Judge Doggett's hands, belonging to said Trustees, on which he claims to have a lien for services in taking care of them, but the matters in the U. S. Court do not demand immediate attention as the others do.

I do not wish to be considered responsible for any of them, as I consider my connection with them ended.

Please lay this before the Board.

Yours Very Respectfully,

C. M. COOPER."

A letter was read from J. M. Mayo, on behalf of the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway Company, asking for an extension of the reservation of the alternate sections of land heretofore made for said company until January 1, 1890, and upon motion of Comptroller Barnes the reservation was extended to July 1st, 1889.

On motion of General Barnes, the Treasurer was directed to publish a notice calling for bids for the sale of bonds and coupons at par under the act for the relief of Bonded Counties, said notice to be published in the Floridian and Daily Times-Union for one month.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 25, 1889.

Board met in Attorney General's Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. P. W. White, Attorney, and Messrs. Miles, Wrotnoski, Hogan and Galliard, appeared before the Board on behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and exhibited drafts, profiles and diagrams showing the work already done, and to be done by said canal company, and stated that the work was now in progress and would be pushed with reasonable dispatch, and also that the company desired to encourage the settlement of the lands reserved for it by permitting actual settlers to purchase the same under certain conditions. Whereupon Attorney General Lamar offered the following resolutions, which met the approval of the represenatitves of the Canal Company, and were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The Board is anxious to promote the settlement and cultivation of portions of the lands which have been withdrawn from sale and reserved for the Florida

Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and at the same time do full justice to said company; therefore, be it

Resolved, 1st. That when application shall hereafter be made by the head of a family, or any person over the age of twenty-one years, for purpose of actual settlement for the purchase of any of the lands embraced in the reserve made to said Canal Company at the schedule price heretofore fixed for said lands by the Board under the regulations heretofore prescribed, and said Canal Company shall make objection to the price so offered as being insufficient in value for the said land, then the price to be paid by said applicant for said land shall be fixed by the Board, after hearing testimony both from the Canal Company and the party so offering to purchase, as to the value of said land. *Provided, however,* That the above resolution shall not apply to those persons who, prior to the 17th day of February A. D. 1888, made application for the purchase of any of said lands so reserved to said Canal Company, under such regulations as have heretofore been prescribed by the Board.

Provided, also, That the Board may withhold from sale such lots or parcels of land as shall be shown by the Company to be necessary and useful for wharves, landings or depots, or for other special purposes connected with the enterprise.

Resolved, 2d. That no certificate of sale shall issue to any applicant until the amount of the schedule price, or such price as may be fixed by the Board, shall be paid, and that all moneys derived from the sale of any reserved lands shall be held by the Treasurer of the Board for the use and benefit of the said company in lieu of the lands for which the same was received, and shall be paid to the said company or its assigns or representative duly authorized to receive the same, as fast as such lands so sold shall be earned by the said company as shown by estimates hereafter to be made.

The Secretary presented a bill of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, for Inspecting the Hommosassa Branch of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf R. R. on December the twenty-ninth (29th) 1888, amounting to one hundred dollars, which was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 29, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. C. L. Mitchell appeared before the Board and presented a bill of J. E. Robeson for examining and reporting upon lands claimed by settlers amounting to two hundred and five dollars, which was on motion ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 30, 1889.

Board met in Attorney General's Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Judge J. G. Speer and Hon. J. M. Bryan appeared before the Board on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company and entered into a full explanation of the work accomplished by said company in draining the lands adjacent to the canal, and applied for permission to sell five thousand acres of the lands reserved for said canal and also asked that the balance due said Company from the sale of lands under the resolution of the Board of February 10th, 1881, be paid over to said company.

After considering the matter the Board adjourned until 7:30 p. m.

The Board met as per adjournment at 7:30 p. m. in the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture. A full Board present. Judge Speer and Hon. J. M. Bryan again appeared before the Board on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company and further explained the drainage operations of said Company.

Whereupon Attorney General Lamar offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st. That the Apopka Canal Company be allowed to sell five thousand acres of land in the reservation heretofore made for said Canal Company lying on the east side of said Canal and that the schedule price of one dollar per acre for such land be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees to be held by him subject to the further order of the Board.

Resolved, 2d. That upon the filing of proper statements and affidavits showing to the satisfaction of the Board the proper expenditure by the Apopka Canal Company, of an amount of money equal to the amount realized from the sale of lands heretofore made under the resolution of the Board of February 10th, 1881, the Treasurer of the Board will be authorized to pay over to said Canal Company the amount shown to be due under the said resolution of February 10th, 1881, by the records in the Land Office, after deducting the amounts heretofore paid said Canal Company by order of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 4, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The application of the Palatka and Indian River Railroad Company for deeds to fifty thousand acres of land upon their Legislative Grant was taken up and consid-

ered, and on motion the Salesman was instructed to prepare deeds for that amount of land to said company on account of railroad construction.

Mr. Thomas P. Hoge, President of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and asked for a deed to lands on account of construction of said road, under the Legislative Grant, and it appearing that there was sufficient lands coming to the fund to satisfy all prior grants, and to meet the obligations of the fund to justify it, it was ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds to sixty-two thousand acres of land for said company of the patented lands, and that certificates issue to them for one hundred and fifty thousand acres of selected, but unpatented lands.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 12, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.
Frank J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. R. W. Davis appeared before the Board and presented a petition on behalf of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway system and asked that a day be set apart to hear argument in support of said petition, which petition is as follows:

"To the Honorable, the Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida:

Your petitioners, the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company—the Palatka and Indian River Railway Company—the Florida Southern Railway Company—the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Halifax Railway Company—the St. Johns and Halifax Railway Company—being separate organizations, but, composing a system known and commonly called the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West system, respectfully petition that your

Board will ascertain and determine the amounts of lands now due to either of said separate organizations by the State of Florida under the several grants made by the State of Florida to each of them, whether general grants or alternate section grants, and that when ascertained your Board will order deeds of conveyance made to the same.

ROBT. W. DAVIS, Atty."

February 12th, 1889.

On motion of Commissioner Wombwell the fourth Tuesday in March next was designated as the day for the hearing of arguments *in re* said petition.

A sworn statement of the President and Secretary of the Apopka Canal Company was read to the Board showing an expenditure, by said Company, of fifty-two thousand eight hundred dollars, in the construction of its canal and the reclamation of lands embraced in its contract with the Board. Whereupon it was Ordered that the sum of Thirteen hundred and eleven 96-100 dollars ($1.311.96-100), which is due said Canal Company for lands sold within the reservation heretofore made for it, be paid over to J. G. Speer, President of said Company, by the Treasurer of the Board, in accordance with the resolution adopted January 30th, 1889.

Hon. Peter O. Knight appeared before the Board on behalf of the citizens of Lee County and asked that the Engineer provided for in the contract made by the Trustees with the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, August 1st, 1888, be appointed at once, and on motion the Governor was requested to communicate with Mr. Wrotnoski, C. E., and ascertain if he can be employed, and the terms upon which he can be employed, by the Board as Engineer to examine into and report upon the best methods of drainage to be employed by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, under its contract with the Board, and to examine and report upon such other matters connected therewith as the Board may desire.

On motion of Commissioner Wombwell the Governor was requested to invite Mr. Hamilton Disston to appear before the Board at an early day to confer with the Trustees relative to drainage operations.

On motion of Comptroller Barnes the Secretary was

directed to request the Florida Railway and Navigation Company to furnish a map showing the route of its road as actually constructed from Waldo to Plant City.

The following bills were read and ordered paid.

Postage account Salesman's office for January, 1889, $13.

W. U. Tel. Co., for telegrams, January, 1889, $1.30.

N. M. Bowen, for printing reports of Secretary and Treasurer and for circulars, etc., for Salesman's office, $48.35.

E. S. Crill, for telegrams, 70 cents.

On motion the Treasurer was instructed to pay for one clerk in the Salesman's office $75 per month, beginning with January 1st, 1889, and continuing until the further order of the Board.

There appearing no further business the Board adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 25, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis F. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney-General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer presented bids under the advertisement to purchase bonds for the bonded counties as follows:

J. N. C. Stockton, cashier, Baker and Bradford County bonds at par and interest.

Geo. Lewis, for trustees, Leon County bonds at par and interest.

Alex McDougall, Jefferson County bonds at 99 cents on the dollar for the principal and accrued interest.

Upon motion of Attorney General Lamar the bids were accepted and the Treasurer instructed to take the bonds so offered to the full extent of the funds in hand apportioned to said counties.

Mr. Hamilton Disston, Col. John A. Henderson, Chas. H. Gross and Col. J. H. Kreamer, engineer, appeared be-

fore the Board by invitation, and thoroughly explained to the Board the drainage operations of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Hon. C. M. Cooper, attorney, on account of services and expenses in United States Court case Trustees vs. Bennett, filing bill in chancery, going to New Orleans and getting injunction. five hundred and seventy-three 05-100 dollars ($573.05-100).

Cooper & Cooper, for retainer in three cases, viz: Trustees vs. Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company, and H. R. Duval, Reciver, in Circuit Court Duval County in Chancery; J. T. & K. W. Ry. Co. vs. Trustees et al. in Supreme Court of Florida; Plant Investment Company vs. Trustees et al. in United States Circuit Court, Northern District of Florida, one hundred dollars each, three hundred dollars ($300.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 26, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

W. R. Hartsfield, for chain bearer and axeman in examining trespass on Internal Improvement land in Jackson County, twelve dollars ($12.00).

E. L. Snowden, for services and expenses in investigating trespass on Internal Improvement land in Columbia County, twenty-nine dollars ($29.00).

J. B. Whitfield, for services rendered in preparing list of lands for use in suit of W. H. Bennett vs. Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company, twenty-five dollars ($25.00).

L. B. Wombwell, expenses trip to Jacksonville *in re* W. H. Bennett vs. Southern Inland Navigation and Im-

provement Company. twenty-two 55-100 dollars ($22.55-100).

L. B. Wombwell, Salesman, for Hon. S. M. Stockslager for (120) one hundred and twenty photo lithographic maps at 25 cents, and postage, thirty 15-100 dollars ($30.15-100).

J. H. Estill, for 2,000 lithographic letter heads, fifteen dollars $(15.00).

The Treasurer was, on motion, authorized to purchase a safe in which to keep the records, bonds and other valuable papers belonging to the Trustees.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 8, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board presented the following bonds purchased by him under resolution of the Board, and said bonds were cancelled in presence of the Board:

Nineteen (19) Jefferson County bonds, No. 202 to 220 inclusive, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, issued January 1st, 1888, with coupons Nos. 2 to 30 inclusive attached, and one (1) Jefferson County bond No. 84, issued January 1st, 1888, of the denomination of five hundred dollars, with coupons Nos. 2 to 30 inclusive attached.

Two (2) Baker County bonds, Nos. 32 and 33, of the denomination of two hundred dollars each, issued January 1st, 1886, with coupons falling due July 1st, 1889, to January 1st, 1896 inclusive, attached.

Three Bradford County bonds, Nos. 36, 37 and 38, of the denominations of two hundred and fifty dollars each,

issued July 1st, 1881, with coupons falling due July 1st, 1889, to July 1st, 1891, inclusive attached, and one Bradford County bond No. 60, issued July 1st, 1881, of the denomination of one hundred dollars, with coupons falling due July 1st, 1889, to July 1st, 1896, inclusive, attached.

On motion the Treasurer was directed to forward the bonds so cancelled to the county treasurers of Jefferson, Baker and Bradford counties respectively.

The Treasurer of the Board presented nine hundred and eighty dollars ($980 00-100) in coupons of the bonds of the Florida Railroad Company, due March 1st, 1889, which he had paid to B. C. Lewis & Sons by direction of the Governor, and on motion his action in paying said coupons was endorsed by the Board.

The Treasurer also called attention of the Board to five coupons from bonds Nos. 1075, 1233, 1234, 1235 and 1240 of the Florida Railroad Company which had been presented to him by B. C. Lewis & Sons for payment, and it appearing that the bonds from which said coupons were detached were held by the Trustees in the Sinking Fund the Treasurer was directed to refuse payment of such coupons.

On motion of Attorney General Lamar the Secretary was instructed to ask for proposals for putting in fire proof vault in Salesman's office.

The Governor presented and read the reply of Mr. Wrotnoski to his enquiry as to the terms upon which he would, if so desired by the Board, investigate the drainage operations of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, and upon motion of Attorney General Lamar the Governor was requested to notify Mr. Wrotnoski that if the Board should require his services he would be so advised.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

Western Union Telegraph Company, for messages in February, 1889, three 60-100 dollars.

R. Don McLeod, for publishing notice of regular meetings of the Board, $3.60.

Times-Union, for publishing advertisement for bids for bonds, $21.75.

N. M. Bowen, for publishing advertisement for bids for bonds, $4.50.

N. M. Bowen, for publishing notice of regular meetings of the board, $4.50.

Herring & Co., for one Patent Champion Safe, delivered at depot in Tallahassee, $440.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 14, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. P. W. White, attorney, and others, representing the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, appeared before the Board and requested that the Trustees determine whether said Company, under its legislative grant of February 6th, 1885, will be entitled to lands for the entire distance between the terminal points of its canal, including the natural water ways already navigable, which it will connect, or only to lands for the mileage of actual work done in opening channels over flats and shoals, widening and deepening creeks and rivers, and cutting out land divides between such natural water ways so as to connect them.

After considering the matter, action thereon was postponed until the next meeting of the Board.

Hon. D. S. Walker appeared before the Board in behalf of the Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company and applied for the lands due to said Company under its Legislative Land Grant of fifteen thousand acres to the mile, and it appearing that ten miles of said road had been constructed and examined by a State Engineer, and accepted, it is ordered that the Salesman prepare and execute certificates to said Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company on account of such construction, one hundred and fifty thousand acres of the unpatented lands selected by the State under the act of September 28th,

1850, lying within the territorial limit prescribed by the Legislative grant to said railroad company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 26, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Board resumed consideration of the question presented by the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company at the meeting held on the 14th inst., and after a full discussion the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund have been requested by the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company to determine whether said company, under its Legislative Land Grant of February 6th, 1885, will be entitled to lands for the entire distance between the terminal points of its canal, including the natural waterways already navigable which it will connect, or only to lands for the mileage of actual work done in opening channels over flats and shoals, widening and deepening creeks and rivers, and cutting out land divides between such navigable waterways so as to connect them; be it

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Board, that said Canal Company will be entitled, when such canal is constructed in accordance with its charter, to such lands as may be earned by actual construction, and that in computing the mileage of constructed canal for the purpose of making a conveyance of lands to said Canal Company on account of construction, natural waterways or portions thereof already affording navigable capacity equal to that of the proposed canal, were not intended to be included.

The Treasurer of the Board presented the following Leon County bonds and coupons, purchased by direction of the Board under the act for the relief of bonded counties, and said bonds and coupons were cancelled in presence of the Board: Six (6) Leon County bonds, Nos. 41, 87, 131, 136, 137 and 138 of the denomination of five hundred dollars each with coupons Nos 7 to 19 inclusive, attached to each bond, and seven (7) detached coupons from Leon County bonds Nos. 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36 and 37 of the denomination of thirty dollars each, and payable February 1st, 1889, each of said seven coupons being numbered six (6).

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

Times-Union for publishing notice of Board meetings four and 50-100 dollars.

N. M. Bowen, for printing report of Salesman and for circulars and township plats for Salesman's office, nineteen and 50-100 dollars ($19.50).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla, April 2, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Upon motion of Attorney General Lamar, Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, was instructed to examine into the work done and to be done by the Apopka Canal Company and report the result of his investigation to the Board together with his views as to the extent and efficiency of the work.

Commissioner Wombwell presented an application from James A. Tuten, to have the money paid by Arthur J. Albritton for the purchase of N½ of Lot 7 Sec. 1, T. 14 S., R. 23 E. refunded, and stated to the Board that the same land had been previously deeded by the Trustees to H. L.

Hart; Whereupon it was ordered that the amount so paid be refunded upon receipt of a certificate from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Marion County showing that the land had not been transferred by said Allbritton to any other person than James A. Tuten and that Mr. Tuten had not issued a deed to said land to any person, said certificate to be accompanied by a relinquishment from Messrs. Allbritton and Tuten of all claim or demand against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida for and on account of the purchase money paid for said land.

A bid was presented from Herring & Co., of New York, accompanied by plans and specifications for a fire proof vault to be placed in the office of the Salesman of this Board for the sum of seventeen hundred dollars ($1700.00), and upon motion the bid was accepted and the Salesman authorized to purchase the vault.

The Seal heretofore ordered by the Board was presented and upon motion of Commissioner Wombwell, said seal was adopted as the seal of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and the Secretary was directed to make an impression of said seal immediately following this resolution on the minute book.

Bill of Horace Drew & Bro. for one seal, amounting to three dollars and 35-100, ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 18, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. P. A. Demens, President of the Orange Belt Railway Company, appeared before the Board and requested the Board to take such action as would lead to an early conveyance of the lands to which said company is entitled, and it appearing that some of the lands drained by the Orange Belt Railway lie within reservations heretofore made for other railroads, it was ordered that the 8th day of May be fixed for a hearing upon this point, and that the F. R. & N., Fla. So. & S. S. O. & Gulf Railway Companies be notified thereof.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Wombwell and adopted:

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Agriculture be directed to notify all persons who have made application to purchase lands lying within the reserve of the Orange Belt Railway, when claims have been approved by J. E. Robeson or the Commissioner of Agriculture, that they must pay for their lands within three months from date of notification or their applications would be cancelled and the land conveyed to the Orange Belt Railway Company.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

T. J. Roberts & Son, for placing the safe belonging to the Trustees in Capitol, thirty-six dollars.

N. M. Bowen for listing paper for Salesman's Office, eight and 15-100 dollars.

L. B. Wombwell, for amount paid to Clerk of Osceola County for recording deed for Trustees, one and 30-100 dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 26, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.
Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Col. A. W. Cockrell, Attorney for Charles S. Adams, administrator of the Estate of J. S. Adams, deceased, appeared before the Board and presented the following petition ,which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"To the Hon. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

Your petitioner, Charles S. Adams, the administrator de bonis non, cum testamento annexo of the estate of John S. Adams, decd., and in his capacity as such administrator most respectfully shows, as follows:

1. On the 26th of May, 1879, John S. Driggs the then administrator, etc., of said estate, and as such administrator, had possession as assets of said estate, which came to him as the Executor of said estate as his predecessor in administering said estate under said wills, of certain coupons fully described in the receipts filed herewith, amounting to $13,310.50.

2. These coupons were then and there wholly unpaid and constituted a just and legal claim and lien upon said Internal Improvement Fund, and were the individual property of said testator and assets of said estate, and they were held and possessed by said Driggs wholly in his capacity as such administrator, and in trust for said estate under said wills, and not otherwise.

3. On said day said Driggs, without any demand upon him from any one, and in the absence of any consideration whatever therefor, moving to him, the said Driggs, from any one, turned over said coupons to Hon. Walter Gwynn, the then Treasurer of said fund, and the said Gwynn thereupon executed to said Driggs his receipts therefor; copies of said receipts are appended to the affidavit of said Driggs filed herewith as part hereof.

4. Years before said coupons were so surrendered, the said Testator had made full settlement of his accounts as such Treasurer of said Fund, and had been turned over

to the U. S. Cir. Court, N. Dis. of Florida sitting in Jacksonville, which had acquired and was then exercising jurisdiction and control over said Fund, and the said Adams, as Treasurer thereof, all the coupons and moneys, and assets of all kind belonging to said fund in his possession, or with which he was chargable, and your petitioner produces and files herewith the affidavit of Aristides Doggett, Esq., the Receiver and Master of said Court, with whom said accounting was had and to whom said coupons, etc., had been surrendered, and makes said affidavit a part of this petition. And further craves leave to refer to the records and files of said Court bearing on the settlement and discharge of said Adams, testator as aforesaid.

5. The said Gwynn, as your petitioner is informed and believes, and so avers the fact to be, turned over said coupons to Hon. Henry L'Engle, his successor as such Treasurer. And so it is said coupons have never been paid by the said Fund, and are wholly due, with interest to your Petitioner.

Wherefore your petitioner prays that your Honorable Board will inquire into the allegations herein set up, and that your Honorable Board being fully advised in the premises, will order that your Petitioner be paid whatever sum in equity and good conscience is due him in respect of said coupons; and as in duty bound your Petitioner will ever pray.

A. W. COCKRELL & SON and
D. S. WALKER, JR.,
Attorneys for Petitioner."

The Treasurer of the Board presented Bond No. 50 for five hundred dollars, which purported to have been issued by the St. Johns and Indian River Canal Company and which had been presented to him for payment by H. N. Felkel and it appearing that said bond was not issued and disposed of by said Canal Company, and the Trustees not being in any way liable for the payment of said bond, it was ordered that the Treasurer refuse to pay said bond and return it to Mr. Felkel together with the reasons for not paying the same.

The Board then adojurned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 1, 1889.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Col. J. J. Dunne, appeared before the Board on behalf of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and presented the following communication:

Tallahassee, May 1, 1889.

To the Trustees of the I. I. Fund, State of Florida.

Gentlemen: The Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Co. desire action by your Honorable Board on the following points:

The company delivers bond as stipulated in contract for expenditure of $125,000, and asks for deed of confirmation to lands heretofore conveyed to them.

Also, That extension of time be granted for expending balance of $40,000 required to be spent in the first year.

Also, That the drainage area be enlarged as to where the work may be done .

Also, The defining in detail what shall constitute proper expenditure under contract.

The statement annexed gives in detail what the Company desires.

Yours Truly,

J. J. DUNNE,
For said Company.

After due consideration the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the bond tendered by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company be returned, for the reason that only one surety has signed the same, and that the company be requested to furnish a bond with two or more sureties.

Resolved further, That when a satisfactory bond, executed in accordance with the contract and agreement of August 1, 1888, is filed with the Treasurer of this Board, the release asked for by said Company as to lands heretofore deeded will be executed.

Resolved further, That in consideration of the fact that the work of drainage was materially retarded last Summer and Fall on account of the existence of yellow fever, the said company be allowed to expend in the second year an additional amount equal to the deficiency that may be found unexpended of the forty thousand dollars required to be spent in the first year under the contract and agreement entered into between the Company and the Trustees on the first day of August, A. D. 1888.

Resolved further, That the said company be authorized to expend not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars out of the funds to be expended under the agreement of August 1st, 1888, and subject to the provisions thereof in cutting a canal from Township twenty-four, South of Range thirty East, north, or easterly to drain into the St. Johns river for the purpose of relieving the lands in the vicinity of the town of Kissimmee and the Tohopekaliga lakes of the waters that drain south from the northern tier of townships.

Action on the request to define in detail what shall constitute proper expenditure under contract was deferred.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 8, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman be and he is hereby directed to issue deeds to the Orange Belt Railway Company for 6,076 62-100 acres of land, being the alternate sections lying within six miles of the constructed line of said company's road and embracing 4,300 26-100 acres heretofore reserved for the Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf Railway

Company, and 1,776 36-100 acres held for settlers whose claims have been rejected.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, May 14, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Messrs. Dexter Hunter and O. A. Buddington, representing the G. C. & M. R. R. appeared before the Board for the purpose of obtaining lands for that part of the G. C. & M. R. R. already built and presented the following petition:

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

Your petitioner, the Green Cove Springs and Melrose Railroad Company, respectfully represents that under the provisions of its charter and in pursuance of the conditions and limitations of the acts of the Legislature of the State of Florida granting lands to your petitioner to aid in the construction of its road, it has constructed, completed and ironed ten miles of its said road as provided for in and by its charter and the said land grants, which said ten miles of railroad was duly inspected and accepted by the State Engineer within the time limited in the said land grants, and that it is thereby entitled to receive from the State of Florida thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres of land under and by the terms and provisions of said land grants.

Your petitioner would further respectfully submit that it has received conveyances for 7,781 48-100 acres of land on account of said thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres and that there is still due to it conveyances for 30,618 52-100 acres, less any number of acres which have been sold by your Honorable Board and accounted for or to be accounted for in money to your petitioner.

Your petitioner would therefore respectfully request that your Honorable Board pay over to your petitioner any moneys which may be in your hands arising from the sale of lands granted to your petitioner, and also give to your petitioner a certificate for the location of the remainder of the lands to which it is justly entitled.

And your petitioner will ever pray, etc.

THE GREEN COVE SPRINGS & MELROSE RAILROAD COMPANY,

By J. M. BARRS, Attorney.

Which was read and filed.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman be directed to prepare a deed for all the patented swamp and overflowed lands granted to the State of Florida under act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, that lie within twenty miles of the Green Cove Springs & Melrose Railroad as constructed and reported upon by the State Engineer, where the same does not conflict with the six mile reserve of any other railroad, to make up for lands to which the said road was entitled, within the six mile limit for which it has not received deeds. And if there is not a sufficient quantity of patented lands to make up the deficiency above stated, then the Salesman also to prepare a certificate for said railroad company for the state selections within twenty miles of said road to cover its said deficiency; and it was further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Board notify the officials of the St. Johns & Santa Fe Railroad to show cause within the next thirty days why the lands heretofore reserved for that road should not be released and returned to market.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 18, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A bond executed by the Atlantic & Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, with sureties in the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars was presented to the Board, approved and ordered spread upon the minutes. Said bond is in words and figures as follows:

Know all men by these presents, That the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida as principals, and Hamilton Disston and J. J. Dunne of the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars lawful money of the United States of America—to be paid to the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, its successors and assigns, to which payment well and truly to be made the said The Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and the said Hamilton Disston and J. J. Dunne bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Attest the corporate seal of the said corporation obligor and the signature of the Treasurer thereof and the signatures and seals of said Hamilton Disston and J. J. Dunne, this Twenty-fifth day of April A. D. 1889.

Whereas, By the second section of an agreement entered into the first day of August A. D. 1888, by and between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of the one part, and the said corporation of the other part, the said company agrees as a compromise and adjustment of the differences between the said company and the State and Trustees as to lands hereto-

fore conveyed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to said company or to any person on its account in consideration of the release of any and all claims of the said Trustees on the lands heretofore conveyed to said company to expend in drainage and reclamation with the approval of said Trustees, as hereinafter provided, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars less the sum of moneys expended by said company in the work of drainage and reclamation since the report of a certain commission appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of February 16th, A. D. 1885, Chapter 3689, which expenditure is estimated up to July 1, A. D. 1888, at fifty-five thousand dollars; and

Whereas, The said Trustees agree that in consideration of such expenditure the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund will, when such total expenditure is so made, execute said release to said company not less than forty thousand dollars of such expenditure on this account, to be made by said company in the first year of twelve calendar months after the formal execution of said contract an dthe total of said sum to be expended within two years after said formal execution thereof:

Provided, however, That if the said company will give bond with sureties to said Trustees conditioned for the expenditure of the remainder of said sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars which shall then remain unexpended in accordance with the terms of said contract providing for said expenditure, the said Trustees will thereupon execute and deliver the said release to said company. Now the condition of said obligation is such that if the above bounden, The Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and Hamilton Disston and J. J. Dunne, their or any of their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns shall well and truly observe and perform the covenants hereinbefore recited as contained in section two of before mentioned contract, as the said covenants may be hereafter modified,

then this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed and delivered in presence of Richard Salinger, H. R. Resinger.

The Atlantic and Gulf Coas Canal and Okeechobee Land Company by JOHN HENRY LIVINGSTON, Treasurer.

(Corporate Seal)

HAMILTON DISSTON. (Seal).
J. J. DUNNE. (Seal)."

The Salesman then presented the release provided for in the resolution adopted May 1, 1889, and said release was duly executed and ordered to be forwarded to the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company. The release so executed is as follows:

Whereas, By the second section of an agreement entered into the first day of August, A. D. 1888, by and between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of the one part, and the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company of the other part, as the same may be hereinafter modified, the said company agrees as a compromise and adjustment of the differences between the said company and the State and Trustees as to lands heretofore conveyed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to said company or to any person on its account in consideration of the release of any and all claims of said Trustees on the lands heretofore conveyed to said Company, to expend in drainage and reclamation with the approval of said Trustees as hereinafter provided, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars less the sum of moneys expended by said company in the work of drainage and reclamation, since the report of a certain commission appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida, in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of February 16, A. D. 1885, Chapter 3689, which expenditure is estimated up to July 1, A. D. 1888, at fifty-five thousand dollars; and

Whereas, Said Trustees agree that in consideration of such expenditure the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund will, when such total expenditure is so made, execute said release to said Company not less than forty

thousand dollars of such expenditure on this account to be made by said Company in the first year of twelve calendar months after the formal execution of said contract, and the total of said sum to be expended within two years after said formal execution thereof;

Provided, however, That if the said Company shall give bond with sureties to said Trustees, conditioned for the expenditure of the remainder of the said sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars which shall then remain unexpended, in accordance with the terms of said contract providing for said expenditure, the said Trustees will thereupon execute and deliver the said release to said Company; and

Whereas, Said bond, satisfactory to the said Trustees, has been given to and accepted by said Trustees; now therefore,

Know all men by these presents, That the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in consideration of the foregoing and the sum of one dollar to them in hand paid by the said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, ratified and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, ratify and confirm unto the said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, its successors and assigns forever, all the land heretofore conveyed to said Company by the following deeds to wit:

Deed No. 12,869, bearing date August 30, 1884, and recorded in the Circuit Court of Brevard County, December 27, 1884, in Deed Book "F," pages 32 to 45; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Manatee County, January 17, 1885, in Book "F," pages 544 to 567; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Polk County, January 21, 1885, in Book "I," pages 529 to 552; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Orange County, November 24, 1884, in Book "4," pages 218, etc.; and by Deed numbered 12,955, bearing date December 27, 1884, and recorded in the Circuit Court of Manatee County, January 16, 1885, in Book "F," pages 568 to 571; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Brevard County, January 28, 1885, in Book "XV," pages 100 to 104 inclusive; and by deed numbered 12,933, bearing date

December 15, 1884, and recorded in the Circuit Court of Polk County, January 7, 1885, in Book "5," pages 66 to 96; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Manatee County, January 17, 1885, in Book "F," pages 503 to 542 inclusive, also recorded in the Circuit Court of Monroe County, January 24, 1885, in book "M," pages 566 to 598 inclusive; also recorded in the Circuit Court of Brevard County, January 28, 1885, in Book "XX," pages 46 to 86 inclusive.

To have and to hold unto the said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, its successors and assigns, forever.

In testimony whereof the said Trustees have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals, and have caused the seal of the Florida State Land Office to be hereunto affixed, at the Capitol in the City of Tallahassee, on this 18th day of May, A. D. 1889.

FRANCIS P. FLEMING, (Seal)
Governor.
W. D. BARNES, (Seal)
Comptroller.
F. J. PONS, (Seal)
State Treasurer.
W. B. LAMAR, (Seal)
Attorney General.
L. B. WOMBWELL, (Seal)
Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report of John Bradford was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., May 1, 1889.

To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund:

Gentlemen—Pursuant to your instructions I have "examined the work done and to be done by the Apopka Canal Co." and beg leave to report as follows, viz: The Company has done no work on the canal since my report of October, 1887, except to clear out some obstructions and sloughing bank and to trim down the sides of the canal to and below the surface of the water, intending, they say, to widen the canal some two or three feet on each side as the waters recede, and to deepen it through the clay cut near the Burge farm above the railroad crossing. The bars and sunken logs remain in the Lake Dora and Lake Eustis Canal as reported in October 1887.

The company has a small force of men engaged in cut-

ting a ditch ten feet wide and three feet deep from the canal along near the north edge of the marsh, some half mile from the timber, running eastwardly toward the depression in the marsh near Zellwood, hoping thereby to take the water from that depression. This ditch has been cut about two miles, but has not yet extended far enough to ascertain whether it will be practicable to lead the water from this depression in that direction. Should it fail to do so the ditch still answers the purpose of draining the surface waters from a large extent of marsh.

The Company purpose to cut another ditch from the northwestern portion of the Lake north towards this depression.

On the west of the canal, about a mile lower down, they are cutting a ditch six feet wide and three feet deep, intending to skirt the western side of the marsh, and possibly find an outlet in the direction of Lake Harris for a small portion of the water. This ditch is about one mile in length. The water of the canal at its south end, where it leaves Lake Apopka, is about on a level with the marsh; and where the ditches empty into the canal, and along these ditches, the surface of the marsh is twelve or sixteen inches above the water.

You also instruct me to report my "views as to the efficiency of the work." The Canal, as reported on in October, 1887, does not seem to have been sufficient for the permanent lowering of the Lake. With quite a dry season, for a year after that report, the lake was lowered very little. If it had been lowered some three or four feet more, the rainfall from November to February, although great, would certainly not have had such damaging effect as has been produced. For the perfect reclamation of the saw-grass lands, my opinion is that Lake Apopka should first be permanently lowered without regard to the requirements of navigation. Just how much the lake can be reduced without lowering the water of Lake Eustis can only be determined by extended observation or a line of accurate levels.

Beside the ditches being cut, other subsidiary ditches may be needed to take off the surface water; the number and size of which can only be determined by experience.

Th Company has only a small force at work and there remains much to be done.

I am most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. BRADFORD,
State Engineer.

On motion of Comptroller Barnes, the Secretary was instructed to furnish a copy of said report to the Canal Company.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Col. John Bradford, for inspecting Apopka Canal, one hundred dollars, $100.

L. B. Wombwell, for deed for Mrs. Teasdale trom J. T. & K. W. Ry. Co., and recording, six 15-100 dollars, $6.15.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., amount paid for express charges, and telegrams, four 65-100 dollars, $4.65.

N. M. Bowen, for deed for Salesman, three dollars, $3.00.

E. W. Clark, for Day Book and Ledger, five dollars, $5.00.

D. W. Gwynn, P. M., for postage for March, 1889, Salesman's Office, ten dollars, $10.00.

D. W. Gwynn, P. M., for postage Salesman's Office, April '89, one hundred and three 70-100 dollars, $103.70.

On motion of Attorney General Lamar, Mr. Brown was authorized to enter certain I. I. Lands at the original graded price, $1.25 per acre.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 21, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. R. F. Taylor, attorney for the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway Company, presented a peti-

tion to the Board praying for an extension of the time in which to commence the work of construction of said railway, and the reasons assigned for the failure to begin work heretofore being satisfactory to the Board, it was

Resolved, That the time for the commencement of the work of construction of the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway be and is hereby extended to the 21st day of January, A. D. 1890, and that the reservation of lands heretofore made for said company be and the same is hereby continued in force until the further order of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 29, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An application was presented from Mrs. Eleanor M. Crosby asking the Board to sell her about two acres of unsurveyed swamp land in section 18, Township 7, Range 30 S. and E. Action on the application was deferred.

The following order was passed:

It is ordered by the Board of Trustees that Instalment Entry No. 13,584 be cancelled, and that Jno. W. Hall be allowed to enter the SE¼ of NW¼ Sec. 34, T. 6 S., R. 14 E., at $1.25-100 per acre; and the amount of $26.66, being the first payment made by said Hall on said land, he applied as part of the purchase money on same.

Senator Jenkins presented a petition on behalf of certain settlers to have the price on two hundred acres of land reduced to two hundred dollars, and on motion the reduction was granted.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 24, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. Hugh A. Corley appeared before the Board on behalf of the F. C. & P. Ry. Co. *in re* the land grant of said road from Withlacoochee to Plant City, and asked that certificates be issued to said Railroad Company for lands in the six mile limit of the road as definitely located between Withlacoochee and Plant City, and after considering the application for some time the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That action upon the application made by the F. C. & P. Ry. Co. be postponed until Tuesday, July 16, 1889, and that the authorities of the Orange Belt and Florida Southern Railway Companies be notified, so that they may be represented at said meeting, if they so desire.

The Treasurer announced that he had purchased the following Madison County Blue Bonds:

No.	143	matured	January	1,	1882	$ 100.00
	142	"	"	"	"	100.00
	162	"	"	"	"	100.00
	199	"	"	"	"	500.00
	230	"	"	"	"	500.00
	231	"	"	"	"	500.00
	235	"	"	"	"	500.00
	Total					$2,300.00
	5 months' interest					76.66
						$2,376.66

Upon motion, the purchase of said bonds was approved and the Treasurer directed to cancel said bonds and send them to the authorities of Madison County as required by the Act of 1883.

Messrs. B. C. Lewis & Sons presented certain coupons for payment, and it appearing that said coupons were detached from bonds which had been purchased and de-

stroyed in 1872, and it appearing further that said coupons did not represent interest accruing during any part of the period prior to the retiring of the bonds from which they were detached, it was ordered that the Treasurer decline to pay said coupons.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 25, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A petition was presented from the Western Railway Company of Florida asking that deeds be issued to it for the remainder of the lands due the Green Cove Springs and Melrose Railway Company on account of railroad constructed by it and approved by the State Engineer. Upon motion, the Board declined to deed the lands to the Western Railway Company of Florida as the documents presented were not sufficiently clear to warrant the Trustees in granting the petition—there being no evidence of the transfer to said Company of the right to said lands.

Upon motion, the Treasurer was authorized to purchase certain bonds as an investment, for the benefit of counties entitled to funds under the act for the relief of bonded counties.

Allen Vaughn filed a protest against issuing deeds to Joseph Kline to the NW¼ of NW¼ of Section 31, T. 24 S., R. 20 E., and the salesman was directed to enquire into the matter and report the facts to the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 29, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. D. L. Dunham appeared before the Board on behalf of Eleanor M. Crosbyy and asked that a quit claim deed be made to certain land claimed as the property of said Crosby under her riparian rights.

Upon motion of Commissioner Wombwell consideration of the application was postponed until Monday next.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 1, 1889.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Ex-Governor W. D. Bloxham appeared before the Board and presented the following petition from Geo. P. Jones, *et al.*:

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen—Your petitioner would respectfully represent that, under the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, the State Agent, A. M. Randolph, in the year 1854, as appears from the records in the U. S. Surveyor General's office, selected the following lands as belonging to the State under said Act: NW¼ of NE¼, NW¼, NW¼ of SE¼, N½ of SW¼, SW¼ of SW¼ of Section 2, T. 3 S., R. 16 E.

The fee simple title to said lands was vested in the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1857, and by proper authority transferred to your Honorable Board.

Your petitioner would further represent that there are several actual settlers on said lands, where they have resided for many years, and have made valuable improvements. They have applied to the U. S. Land Office to homestead said lands, but said lands being confirmed to the State by the said Act of Congress of March 3, 1857, their application was denied. They then applied to the State Land Office to purchase the same, but no patents having been received by the State, their application was again denied.

As the absolute and unquestioned title to said land is in your Honorable Board, your petitioner would most respectfully request that said settlers be allowed to purchase said lands at minimum price. If this be denied, your petitioner would urge upon your Honorable Board to pass some resolution, or take such necessary action, as will secure these settlers the preference when patents are received; as otherwise, said lands, when patents are received, might be transferred to some corporation in ignorance of the fact that actual settlers are, and have been for years, ready to purchase the same, and your petitioner will ever pray.

GEO. P. JONES,
For Self and Others.

P. O., Bell's Mill, Columbia County.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 27, 1889.

I, W. D. Bloxham, U. S. Surveyor General of the District of Florida, do hereby certify that the following lands, to-wit: The NW¼ of NE¼, NW¼, NW¼ of SE¼, N½ of SW¼, SW¼ of SW¼ of Sec. 2, T. 3 S., R. 16 E., were selected as swamp lands by A. M. Randolph, State Agent, in the year 1854, as shown by the records of this office.

Witness my official signature this 27th day of June, 1889.

W. D. BLOXHAM, Surveyor General.

Resolved, That the petitioners be allowed to enter the lands whenever the rules and regulations of the Board are complied with.

On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to pay Hugh A. Corley one hundred and fifty dollars in addition to the sixty dollars already paid him, for services rendered in investigating coupons.

Mr. D. L. Dunham being present, the Board resumed consideration of the application of Mrs. Eleanor M. Crosby, presented by him on Saturday last, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a deed be issued to Mrs. E. M. Crosby who was shown to be the riparian owner of the land contiguous to the lands applied for.

A communication from D. U. Fletcher, Esq., attorney, on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, asking that the amount to the credit of said city, under the act for the relief of bonded counties, be turned over to said city, was read, and the Treasurer was directed to inform Mr. Fletcher that the funds could not be used for any purpose except for the purchase of outstanding bonds of the City of Jacksonville, as provided by the act of 1883.

The following request of Mr. J. V. Harris was granted, with the right to purchase the lands hereafter at prices to be fixed by the Board; improvements to be made by Mr. Harris not to be considered in fixing the price:

"Tallahassee, May 6, 1889.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen—There are thousands of acres of unsurveyed swamp lands lying between the Everglades and the salt water sounds and bays to the south; these lands are mostly covered with salt water grass, and are generally bounded by thickets of mangrove; these lands are covered the greater part of the year by rain water, and occasionally overflowed by the tides. They can be diked and drained, but will probably not be surveyed for half a century, as they are supposed to be valueless. I wish permission from the Board of Trustees to enter upon, dike drain and cultivate two thousand acres in one body, with the understanding that if ever patented to the State I am to have the privilege of buying this 2,000 acres at the usual price of swamp lands, or such price as the present Board deem proper to place upon said lands. I believe the lands which I will select will be in the vicinity of T. 60, R. 36.

Respectfully yours,

J. V. HARRIS."

The following communication, which was accompanied by a power of attorney authorizing Messrs. White and Miles to act for the company, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., June 1, 1889.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

The Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company hereby accept the provisions of an act of the Legislature of the State of Florida entitled, "An act to be entitled an act in relation to the Land Grant of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and prescribing the duties of the Trustees of the Interna' Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in relation thereto, the right of settlement thereon, and the specifications for the construction of its waterway, and the time of its completion from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay," approved May 29th, 1889.

THE FLORIDA COAST LINE CANAL AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY.

By its attorneys in fact.

GEO. T. MILES,
P. W. WHITE.

On motion of Mr. Wombwell, the salary of the Salesman's clerk was fixed at twelve hundred dollars per annum, and the salary of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board was fixed at one thousand dollars per annum, the increase in each case to take effect from date.

The reply of G. M. Whetstone, President of the Santa Fe and St. Johns Railway Company, to notice sent him by the Board was read and ordered filed.

The report of the State Engineer on mileage Florida Southern Railway was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Bradfordville, Fla., June 14, 1889.

Wm. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary Board Trustees I. I. Fund:

Dear Sir—At your request I send the following memoranda of tenths of the different portions of the Florida Southern Railway, taken from a former report to the Board, certified to by Chief Engineers Reynolds and Couper:

	Main Line. Miles.	Sidings. Miles.
Palatka to Gainesville	48.82	4.13
Rochelle to Ocala Depot	31.78	2.20
Ocala Depot to Lake Harris	33.75	1.46
Lake Harris Spur to Junc. St. J. & L. E. R.	.45	
Leesburg Junction to Brooksville	40.88	1.47
Micanopy Junc. to Micanopy	3.47	0.13
Citra Junction to Citra	6.47	1.33
Bartow Junction to Punta Gorda	77.89	2.90
Gainesville to Hague	11.12	
Hague to Lake City Junction	24.48	
Lake City Junc. to Lake City	18.60	
Pemberton's Ferry to Lakeland	43.176	
Lakeland to Bartow	13.263	
	Feet.	
Side track between Hague and Gainesville, including Gainesville yard	18.552	
Lake City Junc. and to Hague	6,694	
Lake City Junc. and Lake City, including Lake City yard	11.446	
	Miles.	
Pemberton's Ferry and Lakeland	2.160	
Lakeland and Bartow	1,210	

Most respectfully,

JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes, and the Secretary was instructed to send Mr. Luther a copy thereof, so that he may reply thereto to the Board:

House of Representatives,
Tallahassee, May 18, 1889.

To the Members of the I. I. Board, Talahassee, Fla.:

Gentlemen—I would respectfully report to you that Mr. Frank Luther, the timber agent of and for the county of Lafayette, is a partner of the firm of J. N. Stripling & Co., doing business in the aforesaid county, a part of which business is that of speculating in the traffic of cedar timber; that the said Luther owns a quantity of celar lands in the aforesaid county. I would respectfully

ask a careful consideration and investigation of the above facts by your honorable board.

Very respectfully, your obt. servt.,

I. F. HART.

The following bills were ordered paid:

W. U. Telegraph Company, $2.71.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., maps ordered, 50c.

Clerk U. S. Supreme Court, for copy of decree *in re* Union Trust Co., $6.00.

Bill of Salesman for recording quit claim deed in Osceola County, $1.50.

On motion the sum of forty dollars was ordered refunded to John Pike for cancelled Entry No. 12,871, Sept. 1, 1884, $40.00.

Also fifty-six dollars to A. J. Hathaway on account of Entry No. 10,247, made on July 25th, 1881, said land having been purchased by Entry No. 3,657 previous to that time, viz. 1861, $56.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 15, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. J. D. Taylor appeared before the Board and asked that the price on certain I. I. lands in township seven, south of range seventeen east, be reduced to $1.50.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Mr. J. D. Taylor be allowed to purchase I. I. lands in sections 13 and 23 in small tracts at ($2.50) two and 50-100 dollars per acre, or if he takes 320 acres in a body in section 23, then at two dollars per acre, or if he takes all the land in section 23, then at one and 50-100 dollars per acre, with the privilege of purchasing lots one (1) and two (2) of section 13 at same price.

Bill of C. M. Cooper, attorney, for services in arguing demurrer and securing dismissal of the case of the New York and Havana Construction Company vs. Trustees, amounting to one hundred dollars, was ordered paid.

The following resolution of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, duly called and held in the city of Boston on the first day of July, A. D. 1889, it was *inter alia*

Resolved, That the provisions of an act entitled "An act in relation to the Land Grant of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and prescribing the duties of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in relation thereto, the right of settlement thereon, and the specifications for the construction of its waterway, and the time of its completion, from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay." passed by the Legislature of Florida, and approved by the Governor on the 29th day of May, A. D. 1889, be and the same are hereby accepted by this company; and it was also further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Company be and he is hereby directed to forthwith forward a copy of this resolution, under the seal of the company, to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

A true copy.
Test: JOHN W. DEMING,
President.

SAM. MADDOX,
Secretary.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 16, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

This being the day set apart to hear arguments for and against granting the application of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company, formerly the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, for lands on the Southern Division of its railroad from Withlacoochee to Plant City, the following representatives of the different roads interested were present and entered into a full discussion of the application: On behalf of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company, Col. John A. Henderson and Hon. Hugh A. Corley; on behalf of the Orange Belt Railway Company, Thomas E. Wilson; on behalf of the Florida Southern Railway Company, W. B. Wilkinson.

After considering the question for some time action thereon was postponed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 26, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company, through its attorney, Hon. D. S. Walker, Jr., presented the following petition, which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"To the Honorable President and Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund:

Your petitioner, The Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company ,respectfully shows that it is greatly to the advantage of your petitioner, and at the same time entirely consistent with the provisions of its charter, to be allowed to make use of twelve miles of the right-of-way of the railroad now built between Tallahassee and St. Marks, on the north end of said railroad. Your petitioner further says that said railroad, from St. Marks to

Tallahassee, is in a bad condition and almost unfit for use, and should your petitioner buy said railroad and make use of said twelve miles thereof as a part of their road from Carrabelle to the Georgia and Florida State line, said twelve miles will be thoroughly rebuilt in all respects, including road bed, new iron and ties, so that in all respects said twelve miles shall be as acceptable as any other portion of the main line of petitioners' said railroad. Your petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable Board indicate by resolution or otherwise that said twelve miles of road, if accepted by the State Engineer as in all respects in such condition as to entitle your petitioner to the land granted to it per mile, that no objection will be made on account of its having been built over the road bed of the road from Tallahassee to St. Marks. And your petitioner will ever pray.

D. S. WALKER, JR.,
Attorney for Petitioner."

After considering the petition the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company has petitioned the Board of Trustees to be permitted to use the right-of-way and road-bed of the old Tallahassee Railroad, known as the road from Tallahassee to St. Marks, for the distance of twelve miles of the north end, without prejudice to their legislative land grant of 15,000 acres per mile of constructed road; and

Whereas, It is made to appear to the Board that the said Tallahassee Railroad has never received any aid in lands for its construction, and that without a thorough reconstruction of said road it is comparatively valueless for commercial purposes;

Resolved, That when said A. T. & G. Railroad shall have been completed from its present terminus to Tallahassee and accepted by Trustees, they will not refuse to convey to the said Railroad Company the lands granted to them by the act of 1883 on account of the road having been constructed on that twelve miles or a less portion of the bed of the Tallahassee Railroad, hereinbefore described.

The application for lands heretofore made by the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company, formelry the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, was taken

up and discussed and final action thereon was deferred until said company files with the Board reasons for varying the route of the road as originally located.

A letter was read from E. R. McKean in relation to certain lands claimed to be due the State, and the Governor was requested to correspond with Mr. McKean in reference thereto.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 14, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The application made by the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway Company on June 24, 1889, for lands within the six mile limit of the road as definitely located from Withlacoochee to Plant City, together with the statement setting forth the reasons for varying the route of said road, was taken up, and after due consideration the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, In the opinion of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, the variation of the line of actual construction of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway, formerly the Tropical Florida Railway, from the line of definite location, was not a sufficient deviation to constitute a different road or to affect its land grant. Therefore, be it

Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That the Salesman of the Board be, and he is hereby directed, to prepare deeds to the lands lying within six miles of the line of definite location—known as the Washington line—of the Florida Tropical Railroad, now the Florida Central and Peninsu-

lar Railway, from Withlacoochee to Plant City, and when said deeds are prepared that they be duly executed and delivered to the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway Company.

The application made on the 26th day of April, A. D. 1889, by Hon. A. W. Cockrell and Hon. D. S. Walker, Jr., attorneys for C. S. Adams, administrator of the estate of J. S. Adams, for payment for certain coupons claimed by said Adams as administrator, was taken up and considered, and after examining the evidence submitted, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, It appearing from the evidence submitted to the Board, that the coupons claimed by C. S. Adams as administrator of the estate of J. S. Adams, deceased, were, and are the property of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board declines to deliver said coupons, or to pay over any money for or on account thereof, to the said C. S. Adams or any other person.

On motion of Comptroller Barnes the Secretary was directed to transmit a copy of said resolution to A. W. Cockrell and D. S. Walker, Jr., attorneys, and to convey to them the following reasons for the action of the Board:

1st. It appears that from June, 1867, to July 1st, 1868, Hon. H. A. Corley was acting treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

2nd. That in October, 1870, John S. Adams, then Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, was duly authorized as the Agent of the Board to make a settlement with H. A. Corley, formerly Acting Treasurer, and that such settlement was made by Mr. J. S. Adams as such agent.

3rd. That in the settlement so made, J. S. Adams, as agent of the Board, received from H. A. Corley, among other items, five envelopes containing coupons, which had been paid by him while acting as Treasurer of the Board, as follows:

No. 48 coupons Tallahassee Railroad Co.....	$ 140.00
No. 49 coupons Tallahassee Railroad Co.....	3,272.50
No. 50 coupons Tallahassee Railroad Co.....	714.00
No. 51 coupons Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company	1,816.50
No. 52 coupons F. A. & G. C. Railroad Co.....	3,955.00

Note—Nos. 48 and 50, $140.00, $714.00, make the $854.00, as shown in receipt.

4th. That Mr. J. S. Adams never accounted to the Board of Trustees for the coupons and other property turned over to him by H. A. Corley.

5th. That the receipt of Hon. Walter Gwynn, Treasurer Internal Improvement Fund, to J. S. Driggs, administrator, shows that the following endorsement appeared on one of the envelopes containing coupons, viz: No. 48, turned over to Mr. Adams by Mr. Corley "$3,272.50 in coupons Tallahassee Railroad Company paid June 29th, 1868, and for which the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund are entitled to stock in said Company," thus proving conclusively, without other evidence, that this package of coupons was the property of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

6th. That while there is no direct evidence that the Florida Railroad coupons, amounting to $2,170.00, were the property of the Trustees, the fact that they were in a package with a number of other coupons which did belong to the Internal Improvement Fund, is presumptive evidence that they also belonged to said Fund, and it is the opinion of the Board that these Florida Railroad coupons can be shown to be the property of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

7th. That the affidavit of Mr. A. Doggett, as Receiver, as to the settlement of account by J. S. Adams, refers to his account as Salesman and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and has no connection with the acts of the said J. S. Adams, while acting as agent of the Board of Trustees under resolution adopted October 10th, 1870, for the specific purpose of adjusting and settling the account of H. A. Corley, former Treasurer.

Petitions were presented to the Board from David L. Dunham, F. B. Dewhurst, Susan G. Middleton and Rachel B. Perkins, owning lands contiguous to the St. Sebastian River and Maria Sanchez Creek in Township (7) seven of Range (30) thirty South and East, asking that deeds be issued to each of said petitioners, as their interest may appear, to the unsurveyed marsh lands to which they are entitled under their riparian rights.

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the petitioners, David L. Dunham *et al.*, be allowed to enter the land applied for upon producing

satisfactory evidence to the Salesman as to their ownership in and to the abutting lands, and their riparian rights thereunder, at one dollar per acre.

The Salesman presented the following accounts:

E. G. Chesley, for correcting map, $1.00.

W. A. Givens, recording deed for Trustees, $1.15.

J. M. Barco, recording deed for Trustees, 85c.

W. C. Zimmerman, recording deed for Trustees, $1.20.

W. C. Zimmerman, recording deed for Trustees, $1.00.

D. C. Hull, recording deed for Trustees, $1.00.

J. M. Lee, recording deed for Trustees, $1.00.

On motion, the Treasurer was directed to pay over to the Salesman the amount of said accounts, viz., $7.20.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 23, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The following communication from Col. John A. Henderson, attorney, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Aug. 19, 1889.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida, Tallahassee:

Gentlemen—It is the desire of the companies earning the lands from the grant of the State of Florida. by the I. I. Act of 1855, on so much of the line of railroad hereafter specified, between Amelia Island and the waters of Tampa Bay, be conveyed by your Board as follows:

The lands in ranges twenty-two and twenty-three from point of last conveyance, down to and including the tiers of sections ending with section twentyfour in township twenty-two, to W. Bayard Cutting, he having acquired by purchase all the rights of the Florida Railway and Navi-

gation Company thereto—the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, as the successor of the Tropical Florida Company, having constructed the road co-terminous with said last mentioned point.

The lands from point last named to end of construction, to H. R. Duval, as Trustee, successor to J. Wilcox Brown, Trustee, under deed of trust-tripartite; Florida Railway and Navigation Company, first part, H. R. Ducal as party of the second part, and the said Brown of the third part, by which deed the said lands were applied in aid of construction of the road by conveyance to the said Brown in trust for the purposes specified in said deed.

Very respectfully,

JOHN A. HENDERSON,

Attorney for the Several Above Named Companies and Interests.

On motion of Attorney General Lamar, the action of the Salesman in preparing deeds in accordance wtih the directions of the attorney of the parties at interest, was ratified.

The Secretary read a report from Hon. J. G. Speer, President of the Apopka Canal Company, which said report is in words and figures as follows:

"Oakland, Fla., Aug. 10, 1889.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida:

Gentlemen—Pursuant to agreement with your honorable body, I herewith send you a report of our work on canal and ditches in saw-grass since last February. The work has continued through the months of March, April, May, June and July, using from twenty-five to sixty hands all the time, until 1st of August, when it became so hot we stopped work until 1st of September—when we expect to resume work.

During this time we expended about eight hundred dollars on the canal in deepening and widening the same.

We have cut thirteen miles of ditches at a cost $3,450.00 and purpose to cut six miles more of ditches. Our present purpose will require six miles more of ditches. This is more than we promised to do, but now think that our own and the State's interests will be best served by doing so. Herewith I send statement of expenditures for the time named and sworn to by myself and also for Capt. B. M. Sims, our Secretary and Treasurer, who is now absent

from the State, and ask your Honorable Board to pay over to us this sum of three thousand four hundred and fifty dollars, already expended, to enable us to go on with and complete the work. This is part of the five thousand dollars paid by us in the purchase of five thousand acres of our unclaimed lands and covered by our contract.

Amount of cash paid out by Apopka Canal Company in work on Canal and ditches in the saw-grass lands:

In month of March, 1889	$ 600
In month of April, 1889	725
In month of May, 1889	810
In month of June, 1889	740
In month of July, 1889	575
Total amount in cash	$3,450

Oakland, Fla., August 1, 1889.

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public for the State at Large, J. G. Speer, who being by me duly sworn, says that the above amounts of expenditure by Apopka Canal Company are just and true as stated.

J. G. SPEER,
Prest. A. Ca. Co.

B. M. SIMS,
Secretary & Treasurer A. Canal Co.

By J. G. Speer, Agent for B. M. Sims.
JOHN APPLEGOR, Notary Public.

We now think that by next November the work will all be complete.

The two thousand acres that was taken, or reserved for the State on the west side of the canal, has been ditched on three sides, and is in fine condition.

Our ditches are acting well.

I am very truly and respectfully,

J. G. SPEER,
Prest. A. Ca. Co."

The following resolution was introduced by Comptroller Barnes and adopted:

Resolved, That in view of the last report made by Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, the Board does not feel

justified in paying over any money to the Apopka Canal Company.

Hon. John E. Hartridge, attorney, appeared before the Board and presented on behalf of a client a number of coupons for payment and exhibited the Florida Railroad Bond No. 898, from which said coupons were detached, and it appearing that said bond was issued in 1866, five years after the last bond was issued under the act of 1855, which provides that the Internal Improvement Fund shall be responsible for the interest, and said bond not having been signed by the Governor nor any other State officer, as required by said act, Mr. Hartridge withdrew his request for payment.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 3, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

A quit claim deed, executed by J. A. Harris, under the resolution of the Board of January 4, 1889, was approved, and the Treasurer was directed to forward Mr. Harris the fifty dollars ordered to be refunded to him by said resolution.

The Salesman presented a deed confirming to J. M. Raleigh, the grantee of W. M. Hendry, who made the original entry of the following land:

S½ of NW¼ and NW¼ of NW¼ of Section 9, in Township 44 South, of Range 26 East.

The following bills were approved:

Herring & Co., for balance on vault in Salesman's Office, eleven hundred dollars ($1,100 00-100).

Walker, Evans & Cogswell, for seal for Commissioner of Agriculture, ten 55-100, $10 55-100.

On motion, the Treasurer was directed to pay the following coupons:

F. A. & G. C. R. R. Coupons, amounting to one hundred and seventy-five dollars ($175.00), to A. B. Hawkins.

Florida Railroad Coupons, amounting to nine hundred and eighty dollars ($980.00), to B. C. Lewis & Sons.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., binding deed book, four 50-100 dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 1, 1889.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
Wm. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The Governor presented and read a letter from Col. Wrotnoski, C. E., setting forth his views as to the probable cost of examining the work done by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company under its drainage contract, and also an examination into and report upon the practicability of the system of drainage pursued by said company, acompanied with suggestions as to changes, if any, required in order to accomplish the work of drainage as contemplated by the contract existing between said company and the Trustees. The estimated expenditure for said work of examination, including assistance, incidental expenses, etc., was placed at twenty-two hundred dollars ($2200.00).

On motion, the Governor was requested to correspond with Hamilton Disston in reference to the payment of Mr. Wrotnoski by the Canal Company for making the contemplated examination, etc., such payment, if made by said Canal Company to be charged as part of the expenses incurred in the drainage operations under its contract with the Trustees.

It appearing to the Board that the NE¼ of NE¼, S½ of NE¼ and NE¼ of SE¼ of Sec. 6, Tp. 32 S., Range 26 E., had been deeded to S. W. Hooker on account of S. I. Wailes, and that the same land was afterwards deeded by mistake to S. I. Wailes, the Salesman was directed to request Mr. Wailes to quit claim said land to the said W. S. Hooker, so as to remove the apparent cloud on his title.

The Salesman reported that D. L. Dunham, F. B. Dewhurst, Susan G. Middleton and Rachel B. Perkins had made the proof as to ownership of abutting lands, as required by the resolution of the Board of August 14, 1889, and that deeds had been issued to them for the riparian lands applied for, as contemplated by the resolution of August 14th, 1889.

The following certificate of A. Buford, Engineer West Florida and Alabama Railroad, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"This is to certify that work on the survey of the West Florida and Alabama Railroad was commenced on the 25th of September, 1889, at the terminus of the Old Iola and St. Joseph Railroad bed in St. Joseph Bay, Florida, and continued as per map to Chipola River; that said survey was completed and staked off on October 5, 1889. Furthermore, that the work of grubbing, cutting and clearing was begun on October 1, 1889, and has continually progressed up to the present time and is still progressing.

A. BUFORD, Asst. Chief Engineer,
"W. F. & A. R. R."

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

D. S. Shine, Clerk Ct. Ct. Orange Co., $3.75 for recording decree of U. S. Supreme Court *in re* U. T. Co. of N. Y. vs. Southern Inland Navigation *et al.*

James H. McKenny, $6.00, for copy of opinion and decree in case of Union Trust Co. vs. Southern Inland Navigation Co. *et al.*

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 6, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The following communication from Judge J. F. Speer, President of the Apopka Canal Company, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Oakland, Fla., October 31, 1889.

To the Hon. Board of I. I. F. of Fla.:

Gentlemen—At a stockholders' meeting of the A. C. Co., held at Orlando first Monday in October of 1889, a committee of three was appointed, consisting of Hon. J. M. Bryan, G. T. Gaines and J. G. Speer, to confer with your Honorable Board in reference to the matters of the Apopka Canal Company, and we now come and make this report to you:

In everything, from the first day of our organization until now. we have earnestly tried to fulfil each and every promise made, and meet each requirement of our contract in the letter and spirit of it.

It is a matter of no surprise when I say that no canal or drainage company has been undertaken in Florida that has not uncovered obstacles that no one could foresee, hence in each case there has been delays not contemplated at the commencement of the work, and we desire now, at the beginnirg, to say a few words in reply to the many adverse reports sent here by parties who wish to force the Apopka Canal Company to drain their private lands. In answer, we say that we did not enter into any general drainage contract—but each legal sub-division that we are to drain is specifically named. We are not to drain lands for A, B or C. We were bound to make a navigable canal that will carry boats drawing thirty inches of water and twenty feet beam, and render the specified lands named in our contract fit for cultivation.

When that is done our contract is filled, and we are entitled to our lands, whether other men's lands are one

or five feet under water. Will the Board hear us as to the value of these lands in 1880? These saw-grass lands at that time had no value at all, but were a pest and a nuisance to the whole country; covered with mud and water from two to four feet deep, and there was not a man in South Florida who would have given ten cents per acre for it. Now, if it has any value at all, it is because we have spent ten years of work and near sixty thousand dollars of money upon it. Then we understand that if it has any value we made it so. Our company have kept good faith with you in every particular. Last February we came before you and promised then to go on and cut about fourteen miles of top and drain ditches. We went at the work at once, and continued until in July, when our hands began to get sick. We had cut over thirteen miles of ditches from four to ten feet wide and three feet deep, thereby draining off the rainfall. Then we made a report of what we had done, and a sworn statement of the amount of money thus expended on these ditches, and asked your Honorable Board to send that amount back to us out of the five thousand paid you for five thousand acres of our lands. I got the answer that our letter had been received and would have due attention at the next meeting of the Board. Though two months have elapsed we have had no answer. If we could have got this money we had intended to put in six miles more ditches. In cutting the thirteen miles of ditches above named, we spent three thousand four hundred and fifty dollars, and would have spent the full five thousand if we could have got it from your Board.

How has this Honorable Board acted towards the Disston Drainage Company? The Company just named have done a noble work for South Florida, and the whole of Florida; have brought thousands of people to the State and much money, and they deserve every dollar and acre of land they have got. To understand what they have done, one ought to visit the St. Cloud Sugar Plantation, and see the cane growing, as fine as ever was seen on earth, and the water in the canal two feet higher than the land where the cane is growing—the rain-water being pumped out and the water held at whatever level may be best. We ask again, what has the State done for this

Company? *Gave them one acre of land for every twenty-three cents spent by them.*

Again we ask, what has the State done for the canal company working on the east coast, south of Augustine? From the report of the committee to the last Legislature, we learn that they too, have and are doing a noble work for themselves and the State—one that will pay the State a thousand fold at no distant day. How then has the State, or your Honorable Board, acted by them? You have deeded them one acre of land for every forty-seven cents they have spent, and hold in reserve over one million and a half acres for them. *They deserve it.*

Then we ask once more, what has your Honorable Board given to the Apopka Canal Company? We have spent ten years of time and spent over *fifty-six thousand* dollars in cash.

You have not given us one acre of land. Whatever we got you made us pay for. We have spent this money cheerfully, believing we would get our money back. Not one single man in our company has ever got *one cent.* We claim justice if the heavens fall.

We claim that our contract has been filled to the letter. Our contract is based on an ordinary stage of water, neither excess or *wet or dry*, and Col. Bradford says in his official report of October 3, 1887, after stating how the canal had been constructed, then adds: "It is believed that the work of drainage has been done in accordance with the contract." It is also true that Col. Bradford recommends further time to test the work—by a wet season. Our contract says of an *"ordinary stage of water,"* and we ask, in all earnestness, who authorized Col. Bradford to inject into our contract a new and important test, that we would never have accepted at the first? This whole subject was discussed by us with Mr. H. A. Corley, who drew the contract; we had the words "ordinary stage of water" inserted because we knew it was not safe to be compelled to meet extremes of dry or wet in South Florida; and say now, that without this saving clause in the contract, we would never have entered into a contract at all, for it could never be complied with.

We have extremes of wet or dry all over South Florida, and to meet these extremes we will require such a canal in the extreme wet weather as would dry Lake Apopka

in one of our extreme dry spells, thereby ruining our canal and the transportation on the lake. Now we feel there is a full and complete remedy for this trouble. We must dyke our lands to keep off the water from the lake under extreme rainfall, then we cut at about every fifty yards small drain ditches, so arranged as to connect all these ditches with the main ditch.

Where the pumping station for the plantation is located, one month ago, we, with others, went to visit the sugar farms at St. Cloud, where we found the finest cane possible growing within twenty feet of the canal on land two feet lower than the water in the canal, the land diked and ditched, and the pump running at a mere nominal cost, and the water in the drain ditches kept at whatever level they pleased to have. The great bulk of this water in these drain ditches is rainwater, and can only be disposed of in this way.

Now, in consideration of the above facts, we ask your Honorable Body to make deeds to us for our part of the lands covered by our contract. We hope in a few years to see a large part of these lands covered with sugar cane, and in order that this may be done to the best advantage, we hereby ask you to sell us the State's one-fifth of these lands at such price as we can agree upon.

We think, if the State can get as much for *her one-fifth* as she could have got for the whole, when we began our work, she would be fully satisfied, and no one would have any cause to complain. Some six or seven years ago your Board sold to J. G. Sinclair and Judge Harry Bingham several thousand acres of land at from 25c to 30c per acre. The Board sold a body of land to Dr. W. W. Hicks for ten cents per acre. These lands named were worth three times as much, in their original state, as our sawgrass lands. It would be unnecessary for us to name the Disston purchase at 25c per acre, or Disston sale of two million acres at 20c per acre.

We feel that we must do on these lands just what the sugar planter in Louisiana has to do—dike, cut cross drain ditches, and have his pump to dispose of his excess of rainfall. They have to do it at St. Cloud.

Believing that your Honorable Board will deal by and with us as you have with the drainage companies named

above, we submit our request to your candid consideration.

RECAPITULATION.

Ten years of constant work, Money paid out in cash, Money to be paid out for sub ditches, ten dollars per acre	$56,000

Received from Board—what?

We have the honor to be most respectfully yours,

J. G. SPEER,
For Committee."

After due consideration, the Secretary of the Board was directed to send the following communication, expressing the views of the Board, to Judge Speer:

Tallahassee, November 16, 1889.

Hon. J. G. Speer, President Apopka Canal Co., Oakland, Fla.:

Sir—Your communication in behalf of the Apopka Canal Company to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, dated October 31, ult., was received and duly considered by the Board, and I am directed by the Board to make the following reply thereto:

On the 25th day of February, 1879, the said Board of Trustees entered into a contract with the said Apopka Canal Company whereby the said company were authorized to enter upon, ditch and drain certain lands specified in said contract, and also to construct a navigable canal connecting the waters of Lake Apopka with Lake Dora, and also a navigable canal between Lake Dora and Lake Eustis, or render the Ocklawaha river navigable between said lakes. Such canals to be of sufficient depth and width to be navigated at ordinary stages of water on said lakes by steamboats drawing thirty inches of water, and of not less than twenty feet beam, and for such boats to pass each other; that when said Company shall drain said lands, and render them fit for cultivation, and construct such navigable canal as aforesaid, the Board to convey four-fifths of the land so drained to the company;

such work to be completed by the Company by the 1st of January, 1882.

Upon application by the Canal Company, the time for the completion of the work was extended from time to time up to July 1, 1887, at which time the work of drainage, reclamation and construction of the canal was reported by the Company as completed; and the Company, in this last communication, claim that their contract has been filled to the letter.

Soon after the notification to the Board that the work was completed, they sent Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, to examine the work; such examination was made, and Col. Bradford submitted a report to the Board, dated October 3d, 1887. In such report the Engineer stated it to be his belief that the work of drainage had been done in accordance with the contract of the company with the Board, but qualified this opinion with the statement that there had, as yet, been no test, "the past year having been comparatively dry," and the Engineer recommended that further time be taken in which to test the permanency of the reclamation, but did not recommend that the work be tested "by a wet season," as mentioned in your communication, and which you intimate is not fair. On the other hand, the Board submit that "a comparatively dry" year did not permit a fair test of the drainage.

The engineer expressed no opinion in his report as to whether that part of the contract in reference to making the canal navigable for steamers, had been complied with; but the facts reported by him show clearly that it had not been complied with in that regard, as he reports the least width of the canal twenty-two and one half feet at the surface of the water, and the least depth, three and one-half feet in the center. Such dimensions, it would hardly be contended, were sufficient for the navigation of steamers drawing thirty inches of water and of twenty feet beam. The engineer also reported that there were two or three small bars, caused by sunken logs, in the canal between Lakes Dora and Eustis, which needed removing.

Upon such report, the present Board of Trustees can come to no other conclusion than that the Board, as constituted at that time, acted advisedly, and with a due regard for their duty, in notifying the President of the Company "that the report of the State Engineer, on the

inspection of the canal of said company, is not sufficient to justify a conveyance of lands to the company by the Trustees."

In April of the present year, the Board of Trustees instructed the said State Engineer, Col. Jno. Bradford, to again examine the work of the Apopka Canal Company and make report thereof to the Board. Such examination was duly made, and on May 1st, last, the Engineer made his report to the Board, in which he stated that the company had done no work on the canal since his report of October, 1887, except to clear out some obstructions and sloughing bank, and to trim down the sides of the canal to and below the surface of the water. That the bars and sunken logs remain in the Lake Dora and Lake Eustis Canal as reported in October, 1887. The report, of which you have a copy, further shows the wisdom of the recommendation of the Engineer in his former report, that further time be taken to test the permanency of the reclamation, as it appeared by the last report that such end had not been attained. You ask what has the Trustees done for the Apopka Canal Company, and you state, "you have not given us one acre of land."

Replying to your question, the Trustees state that the Board has extended the time limited for the completion of the work, on the application of the company, from time to time—from January 1, 1882, to July 1, 1887—something over five years. And, even up to this time, the Board have taken no action to forfeit the contract for a failure on the part of the company to comply therewith.

Notwithstanding the fact that, under the terms of the contract, the Company was not entitled to one acre of land until the completion of the said canal as to navigation, specification and the drainage of, at least, one-fourth of the lands described therein by May 1st, 1881, and three-fourths by January 1st, 1882, afterwards extended, as aforesaid, the Trustees at different times, on the application of the company, and to carry into effect sales negotiated by the company for their benefit, permitted the entry, in all, of 7,780 96-100 acres of the said land at schedule price of $1.00 per acre and less, the Company getting the benefit of the profit over and above the State price.

Of the money paid in to the Trustees for such entries, there has been refunded to the Company $2,446.29, being

the State price for 2,763.27-100 acres of said lands so entered. The Trustees have, therefore, given your company 2,763.27-100 acres of land, besides the benefit, in addition thereto, of such profits as the company may have made on 5,022.69-100 acres.

In reference to your statements as to what the State has done for the Disston Drainage Company and the East Coast Canal Company, we reply that it is not germane to the matter of the contract between the Board and the Apopka Canal Company.

In view of the foregoing, the Board cannot, consistently with their duty, make deeds to the Company at this time of any additional lands, nor can the Board at this time pay to the Company the proceeds of the entry of the lands above stated, in addition to what has already been paid to the company.

Whenever the Board is notified by the Company that it is ready for another examination of the work by the State Engineer at "ordinary state of water," such examination will be made, and, if it is found that the contract has been complied with, as to the navigable requirements of the canal, and the drainage of the lands, the Board will take great pleasure in performing its part of the contract.

The Board is willing to give your company the option of the purchase of such of the lands as will remain the property of the Trustees after the execution of the contract at such price as may be fixed by the Board.

It is the earnest desire of the Board to see the work of the company carried on to a successful completion.

Very respectfully,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secty. I. I. Fund of Fla.

In re the petition of J. A. Freese, to have the entry, No. 13871, January 5, 1889, by W. W. Mann, of the W½ of SW¼, Sec. 25 of Tp. 24, R. 19 S. and E., cancelled.

The Salesman was directed to inform Mr. Freese that the land was subject to entry at the time it was purchased by Mr. Mann, and that no reason has been presented that would authorize the Board to cancel the entry.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 21, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner &c.

The matter of employing an engineer to inspect the work of drainage of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, was taken up, and after discussion, it was decided that the Governor should inform Mr. Wrothnowski that the employment of such Engineer would be deferred for the present.

J. M. Dancy, attorney in fact for F. L. Dancy, applied to the Board for a quit claim deed for all that part of the marsh lands between the Vice and Avail grant and the channel of the St. Sebastian River, which lies south of the Tomoko Road, in section 20, Tp. 7, South of Range 30 East, containing 25 acres, more or less, and presented the abstract of title from original owners to F. L. Dancy. Whereupon it was ordered that a quit claim deed be issued to F. L. Dancy upon the payment of $25.00.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman be authorized to issue deeds on certain certificates of entry of land issued by the former Salesman, and that the Salesman shall endorse the fact of such issue of deed on the certificates, and turn the same over to the Treasurer of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 23, 1889.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner, etc.

The attention of the Board was called to that portion of the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C., relating to the selection of swamp lands in this State, and after discussion, a communication, of which the following is a copy, was prepared and unanimously adopted as expressing the views of the Board as to the true status of the swamp land selections, and the President of the Board was requested to forward said communication to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, and a copy thereof to each Senator and Member of Congress from Florida:

December —, 1889.

Hon. John W. Noble, Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

The annual report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the year 1889, bearing date Sept. 17, 1889, and signed by Acting Commissioner W. M. Stone, has come to the notice of the undersigned Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, in whom was vested by statute of said State, the land granted by the United States to the State for the purposes of internal Improvement, including the swamp and overflowed lands granted by Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, which report contains such charges of fraud against the State of Florida, in the matter of the selection of swamp lands, based upon statements so at variance with the facts, that we deem it our duty to bring the matter to your attention, in the hope that such erroneous statements and the unjust imputation of fraud upon this State, may be corrected, and justice done the State.

The Acting Commissioner says (Page 29): "In the report of 1888 (See p. 45) special mention was made of the frauds that had been perpetrated in regard to the claims of Florida under the swamp grant. There can be no

doubt that large quantities of land, amounting to millions of acres, have been patented to this State erroneously as being swamp, when, in fact, they were and are good agricultural lands.

"It would seem that before action is taken for the approval of current claims of this State, the lands claimed should be carefully scrutinized and examined by reliable agents of the Government in the field, and that some action should be provided for by Congress to recover for the public domain the lands fraudulently obtained before any more lands are patented under these grants. The total area of Florida is 37,931,520 acres, while the lists already filed from that State amount to 22,221,469 acres, of which amount 16,061,129.98 acres have been patented. Only 711.59 acres were patented to Florida during the past year.

"I call attention to the fact that no lists have yet been filed for the lands in that part of the State most notoriously swampy in character, viz., in the extreme Southern part of the peninsula, in the vicinity of the Everglades.

"It is possible, therefore, that in the future, several million acres more will be claimed of lands that may be more genuinely swampy than the bulk of those previously claimed.

"It thus appears that fully two-thirds of the public lands in the State have been or will be claimed as swamp, a claim which I am not prepared to admit by any means."

It is difficult to understand how a high official of the government, with the records of his office accessible to him, could make the statement so at variance with the facts "that no lists have yet been filed for lands in that part of the State most notoriously swampy in character, viz., the Everglades." The facts are, that long anterior to the date of such report, lists embracing the whole of the Everglades, and the vast area of swamp and overflowed lands contiguous thereto, and within what is known as the Okeechobee Drainage System (the submerged lands contracted to be drained by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company), had been filed in the General Land Office.

The lands embraced within list 58, which is the list of 1,962,080 acres referred to by the Acting Commissioner, are within the above territory. That these facts may readily appear by a glance at the map, we have caused to be marked upon a map, showing the Everglade region of this State and the Okeechobee Drainage system on each township therein; the number of the list which contains the unpatented selections within the respective townships in red figures; and where the lands have been patented within those limits, the number of the patent is marked on each township in black figures. We have also had prepared, and transmit herewith, list of the selections therein patented and unpatented, giving the township and range and areas; the first designated as list "A," being the patented lands amounting to 4,818,465 acres, and the second designated as list "B," being the unpatented selections, estimated at 4,498,950 acres. Thus it will appear that 9,317,415 acres have been selected within the Everglade region and the notoriously overflowed lands embraced in the drainage system contiguous thereto, not going further North than township 25 South.

In his charges of fraud against the State of Florida, and the statemment that "there can be no doubt that large quantities of land, amounting to millions of acres, have been patented to this State erroneously as being swamp, when, in fact, they were and are good agricultural lands," the Acting Commissioner appears to have ignored the fact that there had been selected up to March 3d, 1857, 11,630,275.51 acres, which were confirmed to the State by Act of Congress of that date, and patents directed to be made therefor (all but a small portion of which have been patented) which was, in effect, a special grant to the State by said act of such lands, eliminating therefrom any question as to their swampy character. This would leave of the patented lands about 5,500,000 acres, in addition to those so confirmed by the Act of 1857, of which, as shown by list "A." above mentioned, 4,818,465 acres lie within said Everglade and drainage region. There remains, therefore, only about 681,535 acres of the patented lands to be accounted for outside of the garnt of 1857, and the submerged lands of the Everglade region and drainage system. And we respectfully submit, there is no reason

to believe that those remaining lands are not swamp as claimed.

The Acting Commissioner reports the aggregate selections of Florida, under the swamp land act, to be 22,221,469 acres; of this 11,630,271.51 acres were confirmed to the State by the said act of 1857, and 9,317,415 acres lie in the Everglades and the said drainage system as aforesaid, aggregating 20,947,686 acres, which, being deducted from the total selections, leave 1,273,783 acres of selections to be accounted for outside of the Everglade region and drainage system. And the grant of 1857, and we do not hesitate to make the statement, that there is sufficient land outside thereof "wet and unfit for cultivation" (the test under the act of 1858), for the selection, without fraud, of that number of acres.

In view of the fact that it is, and has been for many years, as we understand, the rule of the land department to examine State selections by agents supposed to be reliable, the suggestion of the Acting Commissioner in his said report, that "it would seem that before action is taken for the approval of current claims by this State the lands claimed should be carefully scrutinized and examined by reliable agents of the Government in the field", would seem to be gratuitous and as unaccountable as his statement that the said selections do not embrace the vicinity of the Everglades. And it appears equally remarkable that, in this connection, the Acting Commissioner should feel called upon to recommend or suggest "that some action should be provided by Congress to recover for the public domain, the lands fraudulently obtained, before any more lands are patented under these grants," in view of the fact that an exhaustive examination was made by the Senate Committee on Public Lands of the Fiftieth Congress of the charge "of alleged illegal and fraudulent conveyances of public lands in the State of Florida," and no such frauds were established, and the report of said committee, No. 2288 (which we desire in its entirety to call to your attention and consideration), which closed with the folloiwng paragraph:

"In view of the fact that by the terms of the grant of the swamp and overflowed lands to the States, the Secretary of the Interior was empowered to pass upon and de-

termine the question of the character of the lands; of the fact that most of the land patented to the States have been sold and conveyed by them and are now held by persons who have purchased them upon the faith of the United States patents; in view of the impracticability of determining at this time with certainty the character of lands selected by the States as swamp and overflowed lands at the date of the grant, the committee believe that as a matter of sound public policy the United States should be bound by the action of the Secretary of the Interior, and that it would be unwise to throw a cloud over the title of these lands by any legislation authorizing proceedings to set aside and cancel the patents heretofore issued for them to the States."

We do not think that it is necessary to add anything to the reasons given by the committee why congressional action, with a view of disturbing the title of the State of Florida to the lands patented to her would be improper. Nor do we admit that Congress possesses such power. The character of the lands having been passed upon by the Secretary of the Interior before the issuance of patents, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of September 28, 1850.

We respectfully submit that whether in fact any portion of the unpatented selections of the State of Florida are not of the character contemplated by the Act, the charge of fraud is not properly applied to the State by the officer immediately presiding over the Land Department of the General Government, as no fraud could be consummated except participated in by the Department, which has every facility to investigate the character of the lands.

We have the honor to request that you will take such action as may be necessary to correct the erroneous statement and unjust imputations of fraud contained in the said report of the Acting Commissioner, and that justice may be done the State of Florida in the premises.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully,

FRANCIS P. FLEMING, Governor.
W. D. BARNES, Comptroller.
F. J| PONS, Treasurer.
W. B. LAMAR, Attorney General.
L. B. WOMBWELL, Commissioner of Agriculture, Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

The following resolution was offered by General Barnes and adopted:

Resolved, That the President of this Board be requested to go to Washington and present the swamp land matter properly before the Land Department and the Congressional Committees on Public Lands.

On motion, the President of the Board was authorized to employ Col. Fred T. Myers as counsel to represent the Board in an action brought by B. C. Lewis & Sons, for Chas. Edward Lewis, to compel the Trustees to pay certain coupons.

Bills of N. M. Bowen, amounting to $17.15, for printing for the Salesman's Office, were ordered paid.

Coupons of F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds, presented for payment by J. M. Baker, amounting to $140.00, were ordered paid.

The purchase by the Treasurer of the Board of Three Leon County Bonds, Nos. 31, 94 and 127 of $500.00 each for par and interest, amounting to $1560.00, was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 6, 1890.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
Wm. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
Wm. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Judge J. G. Speer, Hon. J. M. Bryan and Geo. T. Gaines appeared before the Board in behalf of the Apopka Canal Company, and asked if further time would be given them to complete the canal as required by their contract of drainage and reclamation.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That such further time be granted for work on the canal as shall be sufficient for the completion of the same to the satisfaction of the Board; *Provided*, That the work be carried on with reasonable progress.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 1, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
Wm. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
Wm. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.

It is ordered by the Trustees that the Salesman be instructed to hold no lands belonging to the fund for any applicant to purchase, subject to the option of the applicant; that every entry of land must be decided and bona fide at the time it is made, and not subject to any conditions or contingencies except those provided by law, and that no entry shall be deemed to be good until the purchase money, as required by law and established rules of the Board, shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Fund.

It is further ordered, that the Salesman be advised that it is contrary to the sense of this Board that any clerk or employee belonging to or connected with his department, shall be allowed to purchase any lands of which he has the sale.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 7, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. R. Wombwell, Commissioner, etc.

Hon. C. M. Cooper appeared before the Board in the interest of parties wishing to purchase some swamp land on Maria Sanchez Creek in T. 7 S., R. 30 E. After discussing the application, Mr. Cooper withdrew it temporarily to make certain corrections and explanations, which if proven satisfactory to the Board, Mr. Cooper would be allowed to purchase the land for his clients.

On motion the Salesman was directed to write to Mr. A. L. Hitchcock, and inform him that upon the surrender of certificate No. 13670, issued by Hon. C. L. Mitchell, August 20th, 1887, for S½ of SW¼ Sec. 19, T. 27 S., R. 26 E., that the Trustees would refund the amount paid to Dr. Mitchell by him for said land.

The Salesman presented a communication from the President of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company with reference to the price the Company had put upon certain lands lying within the Canal Reserve, which had been applied for by actual settlers, or persons desiring to become such.

The Salesman was directed to write to Capt. David L. Dunham of St. Augustine, to ascertain if he would accept the position of appraiser on the part of the State, to value lands reserved for the canal in accordance with the provisions of section 2, Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, page 297, pamphlet laws of 1889. The Salesman was also directed to inform Capt. Dunham as to what he would have to appraise, and ask what compensation he would require if he acepted the position.

The purchase by the Treasurer of the Board of the following bonds and coupons was approved—5 Leon County Bonds, Nos. 45, 72, 91, 113 and 115 of $500.00 each at par, $2500.00, and ten interest coupons of $30.00 each, due February 1, 1890, from Bonds Nos. 45, 72, 91, 113, 115, 135, 139, 140, 141 and 142, amounting to $300—making a total

of $2800.00 for Leon County bonds and coupons, and two Madison County Bonds, Nos. 233 and 237, five hundred dollars each for par, and one year's interest, amounting to one thousand and eighty dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 3, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner, etc.

A communication was presented to the Board from Geo. W. Dickson, Secretary St. Johns and Indian River Canal and Steamboat Company, asking what lands would be given to said company, and on motion, the Secretary of the Board was instructed to inform Mr. Dickson that an affidavit of the Engineer must be attached to the map of the route, setting forth the fact that the route indicated thereon was actually surveyed by him as the line or route of the canal to be constructed by the St. Johns and Indian River Canal and Steamboat Company.

The Commissioner of Agriculture presented a letter from Charles V. Hillyer, on behalf of the Board of Health of Nassau County, asking permission to use a certain piece of marsh land in Sec. 4, T. 3, R. 28, for quarantine purposes, and on motion the Commissioner of Agriculture was authorized to say to Mr. Hillyer that the Trustees had no objection to the use of said land by the Board of Health for the purpose indicated, if the lands belong to the Internal Improvement Fund, provided that in using said land no encroachment is made upon the rights of persons owning the adjacent or abutting lands.

The following letter from D. L. Dunham was ordered spread upon the minutes, and the Commissioner was directed to inform Mr. Dunham that the terms were satisfactory:

"St. Augustine, Fla., February 11, 1890.

L. B. Wombwell, Esq., Commissioner of Agriculture, Tallahassee, Fla.:

Dear Sir—Your letter to me of 8th inst., asking me if I would accept the appointment as State Appraiser under Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida for 1889, an act in relation to the Land Grant of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, has been received.

I have examined said law, and in answer state that I will accept the appointment, and at the per diem of $10.00, bearing my own expenses, and time of starting on said service to be set and agreed upon by Mr. J. L. Coles and myself (which I think could be arranged for starting some time after the 20th day of March, 1890)—it might be arranged to start earlier, but it would not be convenient to either of us.

Yours truly,

D. L. DUNHAM."

The Treasurer presented four thousand dollars in Madison County Bonds, numbered 64 to 93 inclusive, 97 to 101 inclusive and 106 to 110 inclusive, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, which he had purchased for par and interest, amounting to four thousand one hundred and eighty dollars, and on motion of Attorney General Lamar, the purchase of said bonds was approved.

Bill for U. S. Lithographic maps for Salesman's Office, amounting to four hundred and forty-four and 50-100 dollars, was ordered paid.

The Treasurer announced that he had paid to Dr. A. B. Hawkins, one hundred and seventy-five dollars, for F. A. & G. R. R. coupons.

On motion of Commissioner Wombwell, the Secretary was directed to notify Mr. W. F. Luther, timber agent,

that J. T. & J. S. White would be entitled to the timber remaining on the lands purchased by them at the date of the purchase, but all stumpage collected, or to be collected, for timber removed from the land prior to the date of the sale to them, should be paid over to the Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 4, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner, etc.

Col. Fred T. Myers appeared before the Board on behalf of Allen Vaughn *in re* contest by said Vaughn of entry made by Joseph Kline of the NE¼ of NW¼ of Section 31, T. 24 S. R. 20 E. and after consideration of the case, the Secretary of the Board was directed to request the County Surveyor to survey the division line between said land and the NW¼ of NW¼ of said section, and furnish the Board with an aidavit from himself and chain-bearers as to the nature and amount of improvements belonging to Allen Vaughn found to be located on the NE¼ of NW¼ of Section 31, T. 24 S., R. 30 E.

Col. Myers also presented an application from Chas. W. Knapp to have certain money, which he claims to have paid to the Salesman in 1886, refunded, and the matter

was referred to the Commissioner of Agriculture for investigation.

The Treasurer presented nine hundred and eighty dollars of Florida Railroad coupons, which he had paid to Geo. Lewis, and the payment of said coupons was approved.

Certain coupons of Pensacola and Georgia Railroad bonds. belonging to Horatio Bisbee, amounting to three hundred and ninety-nine dollars, were presented for payment, and the Treasurer was directed to investigate and report to the Board whether or not said coupons were properly outstanding.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 8, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner, etc.

Commissioner Wombwell presented the following, which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

Green Cove Springs, Fla., March 6, 1890.

To the Honorable Board of Internal Improvement for the State of Florida:

Please take notice that the Western Railway Company of Florida has completed its main line of railway from Green's Creek, in Clay County, to Melrose, in Bradford

County, a distance of twenty-three miles, and the said Company respectfully requests your Honorable Board to arrange for the inspection and acceptance of said railway, as provided for by law, at the earliest convenient date, and to notify the Superintendent of this Company in advance when such inspection will be made.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) DEXTER HUNTER,
President Western Railway.

Upon motion, the Secretary was directed to furnish Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, with a copy of the above application, and to request Col. Bradford to inspect the railroad at an early day.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased two Bradford County Bonds, Nos. 61 and 62, of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, for the sum of one thousand dollars, and the purchase was approved.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to inform Hon. J. F. Hart that Mr. W. F. Luther, timber agent, denies the charges set forth in his communication to the Board, and the Secretary was also instructed to request Hon. J. F. Hart to furnish any proof he may have as to the correctness of his charges against Mr. Luther within thirty days.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 25, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

W. B. Lamar, expenses to Kissimmee and return, twenty-one and 20-100 dollars, $21.20.

F. P. Fleming, expenses to Kissimmee and return, twenty-one and 20-100 dollars, $21.20.

F. J. Pons, expenses to Kissimmee and return, twelve and 50-100 dollars, $12.50.

C. W. DaCosta, printing for Salesman's Office, sixteen and 25-100 dollars, $16.25.

N. M. Bowen, printing for Salesman's Office, seven and 25-100 dollars, $7.25.

N. M. Bowen, advertising for bids for bonds, two and 25-100 dollars, $2.25.

Florida Times-Union, advertising for bids for bonds, thirteen and 36-100 dollars, $13.36.

H. Bisbee, coupons P. & G. R. R. bonds, three hundred and ninety-nine dollars, $399.00.

Geo. W. Saxon & Co., coupons F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds, eleven hundred and twenty dollars, $1120.00.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased the following bonds from George Lewis:

Three Leon County Bonds, Nos. 111, 128 and 142, of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, at par and interest, amounting to fifteen hundred and seven and 50-100 dollars, ($1507.50).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 29, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The Governor called attention of the Board to the fact that he had received four pieces of Palatka Military Scrip, as follows:

No. 5, embracing 47.39 acres, dated July 8, 1889.
No. 6, embracing 189.55 acres, dated July 8, 1889.
No. 7, embracing 231.51 acres, dated March 13, 1890.
No. 8, embracing 926.05 acres, dated March 13, 1890.

Nos. 5 and 7 of which are claimed by S. I. Wailes, as compensation for his services as agent to procure the scrip for the State of Florida, under his contract with the Board of Trustees under date of April 13, 1878, and July 24, 1886. Certificates Nos. 5 and 7 were ordered turned over to Col. Wailes as such compensation as agent, and certificates Nos. 6 and 8 were ordered to be sent to the Trustees of the City of Pensacola, under Act of the Legislature approved February 12, 1885.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 12, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The Governor presented a letter from J. W. Bushnell, Chief Engineer of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway Company, asking that the State Engineer be instructed to inspect that portion of said company's road

lying between Plant City and Tampa Bay, a distance of 22 75-100 miles, which has just been completed; and on motion, the Secretary was instructed to request Col. John Bradford to inspect said road and report thereon to the Board.

A communication from Richard H. Marks, requesting the Board to express an opinion as to the land grant of the Florida Midland and Georgia Railroad, was taken up, and after consideration, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Board, the Florida Midland and Georgia Railroad Company is not entitled, under its Legislative Land Grant, to a special grant of six thousand acres per mile.

It appearing that S. N. Andrews did, on the 4th day of October, 1888, pay to the Commissioner of Land and Immigration, who was acting as Salesman for this Board, eighty dollars for the entry of the E½ of NW¼ of Sec. 27 T. 45 S., R. 43 E., and that no certificate of entry or deed was issued to said S. N. Andrews by said Commissioner as such Salesman; it is ordered that the sum of eighty dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for S. N. Andrews, and that the money so appropriated be used in the entry of said 80 acres of land for the said Andrews.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

J. B. Whitfield, taking acknowledgment of Trustees to papers *in re* suit of Lewis against Trustees, two and 50-100 dollars.

Postage for Salesman's Office for March, 1890, nine dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 15, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Col. Fred. T. Myers appeared before the Board on behalf of Dr. R. B. Garnett, and asked that the Trustees make quit claim deed to Dr. Garnett for certain marsh land on what was formerly a part of the Maria Sanchez Creek, in St. Johns County, and it appearing from the statement of Col. Myers, that the same land was also claimed by Mrs. Stella V. Dumas, it was ordered that action upon the application be postponed, and that the Secretary notify Mrs. Stella V. Dumas to appear and show cause, if any, why the quit claim deed applied for should not be issued.

Mr. Mayo appeared before the Board and asked for an extension of the time for commencing work on the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the time for commencing the work of construction of the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway be, and is hereby, extended to the 21st day of October, A. D. 1890, and that the reservation of lands heretofore made for said Railway be, and the same is hereby, continued in force until the further order of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 19, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, made the following report upon his examination of the construction of the section of the railroad of the Florida Central and Peninsular Company, lying between Plant City and Tampa, in the county of Hillsborough, which is the completion of its said road and of the system provided for in the Act of January 6, 1855, known as the Internal Improvement Act:

Jacksonville, Fla., April 17, 1890.

To the Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida,
Tallahassee, Fla.:

Gentlemen:—As instructed by your Honorable Board, I have inspected "that portion of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway lying between Plant City and Tampa Bay," and beg leave to report as follows, viz.:

I find the road well constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Improvement Act and the modifications thereto. The maximum grade is 52 80-100 feet per mile, the maximum curve is three degrees except at the terminals, where stiffer curves are nearly always found to be necessary. The clearing is well done, crossties in sufficient quantity and of excellent quality. Grading well done, but on account of the dryness of the season, banks are not yet well settled, causing unequal setting of the track and consequent heavy work in surfacing, and although the track is in running order, there remains yet considerable surfacing to bring it in No. 1 condition. The track is laid to within a few hundred feet (two or three hundred perhaps) of the waters' edge at Tampa. The length of this portion of the road is 22 75-100 miles. I respectfully recommend that the road be received by the State.

Respectfully submitted,
JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer.

Comptroller Barnes offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By the report of the State Engineer, it appears that the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company, in accordance with its charter and under its succession to the franchises which were of the Florida Railroad Company, has constructed the section of its road lying between Plant City and the waters of Tampa Bay at Tampa, in the County of Hillsborough, upon the line indicated in, and in accordance with the provisions of an act entitled an act "to provide for and encourage a liberal system of internal improvements in this State," approved January 6, 1855, and the amendments thereto, a distance of 22 75-100 miles; it is

Resolved, That this Board does hereby accept the said road, as so constructed under the provisions of said acts. And it is further

Resolved, That the remaining alternate sections of the State lands on each side of said section of the said road, which were granted for the construction of a road on the route of the construction by the fifteenth section of said act, and which having been reserved from sale upon the filing by the said Florida Railroad Company, which accepted the provisions of said act, of the line of definite location, and which being so reserved, have been from time to time conveyed to the Peninsular and Tropical Florida Railroad and Florida Railway and Navigation Companies as they by construction earned the same, be, and are hereby, directed to be conveyed to the order of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad Company for its said construction and completion of the line of railroad from Amelia Island to the waters of Tampa Bay, upon the route and under the provisions of the aforesaid acts.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 29, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

John A. Henderson, as attorney of record, for Reed & Wertheim, Trustees, who heretofore filed for verification and payment with A. Doggett, Master, etc., in the cause of Francis Vost *et al.* versus The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, certain coupons of the bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company, which had been endorsed for payment by this Board, and which coupons having been registered by said Master, were by him turned over to the Treasurer of this Fund for payment, applied to the Board for the payment of the balance due on same.

On motion of Comptroller Barnes, it is ordered that the Treasurer of this Fund is authorized and directed to pay to John A. Henderson as attorney of record, as aforesaid, the sum of two thousand one hundred and seventy-eight 33-100 ($2,178 33-100 dollars, on his filing his receipt therefor in full satisfaction of the amount due on said coupons.

The following report of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., April 11, 1890.

To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida:

Gentlemen—Pursuant to your instructions, I have inspected the Western Railway of Florida from Green Cove Springs to Melrose, and find it well constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Improvement act and modifications thereto.

The road is narrow gauge, laid with 30 lb. steel rail on ties the shortest of which are six feet long, and about 2800 ties per mile. Trestles well built, grades and curves quite easy. There was some carelessness in the engineer work of locating and constructing the road, which is shown in numerous *crooks* or *bends* in what was intended to be straight lines, which, however, does not materially injure the road. The length of the road from Green Cove Springs to Melrose is 32.90 miles; the old part of the road, from Green Cove Springs to Clay Cut, being 15.19 miles, and from Clay Cut to Melrose (the new portion) 17.71 miles.

I respectfully recommend that the road be received.

Respectfully submitted,
JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer.

The bill of Colonel John Bradford, State Engineer, for inspecting the Western Railway of Florida and the F. C. & P. R. R. between Plant City and Tampa Bay, amounting to two hundred dollars, was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 8, 1890.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The following petition was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

To the Trustees I. I. Fund:

We, the undersigned residents of Lee and DeSoto Counties, beg respectfully to call your attention to the present and prospective results of the Drainage Company in making the Caloosahatchie Valley, up to the present time, the main outlet for the waters of Lake Okeechobee.

The result, so far attained, has been to throw into the Caloosahatchie river not only the drainage of the sawgrass lands at the head of the river, but a large volume of water from Lake Okeechobee; thus tending to endanger the bordering lands along the river during and subsequent to the rainy season—and the upper Caloosahatchie is annually affected to a greater or less degree in consequence. That this Caloosahatchie Valley can ever be the outlet for the waters of Lake Okeechobee, except at a total sacrifice of much very valuable property, is so evident that the Drainage Company have become aware of this, and are now directing their efforts to opening a channel south from Lake Okeechobee, which is no doubt the natural outlet for its waters.

We understood that this drainage contract was largely intended for the improvement of the lands of this section, and we would respectfully, but very urgently, represent that this can be best and only accomplished by closing this canal, and the construction of such embankments as will prevent the waters of Lake Okeechobee, either by drainage or at high water, from encroaching in the valley.

This is not only practicable, but it is to the interest of the Drainage Company, as they would by such embankments, and the canals they are now constructing south from Lake Okeechobee, permanently and effectually lower the lake and reclaim large areas of land.

Your petitioners are in no way hostile to the Drainage Company, except so far as our property is being damaged by the present operations; but we accord our full approval of the great work they are engaged in, and the ultimate value it will be to the southern portion of the State as well as to the whole of this commonwealth.

We urgently request that the Drainage Company, to whom we addressed a somewhat similar appeal some months ago, which had no response, be requested to change their plan of drainage so as to afford us present and permanent relief.

NAMES OF SIGNERS.

Robt. Lilly, J. L. Cutler, D. S. Colby, F. M. Park, Taylor Frierson, Henry B. Hoyer, T. T. Roan, C. W. Hendry, Thos. W. Langford, N. L. Langford, James Evans, T. E. Langford, John J. Blount, E. J. Blount, A. A. Gardner, Z. J. Brown, L. C. Stewart, J. J. Lookes, E. P. Kantz, L. D. S. Boyd, F. H. Stout, Ed. "Press," T. H. Levens, L. M. Stroup, J. B. Stebbins, H. S. Lovejoy, Robt. B. Leak, H. M. Higginbotham, J. W. Higginbotham, R. A. Henderson, B. E. Henderson, J. M. Henderson, J. T. Haskens, T. T. Henderson, W. H. Henderson, R. A. Barlow, J. C. Anderson, W. F. Powell, Jno. Fraser, Daniel Flint, J. E. Blount, J. E. Hendry, D. C. Kantz, A. A. Manwald (?), Wm. Jeffcott, R. A. Miller, F. A. Hendry, F. M. Hendry, Joseph Viras, Peter Nelson, C. H. Frinck, E. L. Evans, C. W. Thompson, C. H. Seathlar, T. O. Langford, W. D. Fraser, J. E. Baucom, H. B. Frazee. B. D. Townsend, H. A. Parker, Robt. Crawford, M. Johnson, Bird Fraser, Jr., W. B. Fraser, R. P. Thurber, C. T. Troope, M. S. Gonzalez, Miles S. Anders, A. D. Anders, Frank O'Neill, F. J. Dana, John Pool, Wm. Pool, Jno. Burney, W. F. Dyess, J. F. Dyess, L. McNeill, R. L. Gald, H. R. McLeod, H. O. Graham, J. R. McLeod, J. O. Townsend, Chas. A. Green, Geo. M. Cooper, J. W. Wilhelm, J. L. Wilhelm, Wm. Upchurch, John Jack, W. P. Gardner, C. E. Robins, Saxton Robins, Mrs. Elizabeth R. Parks, H. S. English, Jas. S. English, W. T. Dodd, H. G. Burnett, Jas. B. McKinley, D. H. Bailey, Wm. Daniels, Lewis R. Daniels, B. F. Taylor, Joseph N. May, John May, Manuel May, Demsey Jen-

kins, Garritt Jenkins, C. C. Hilliard, D. C. Heirs, Lemuel Prescott, J. D. Barley, Wm. Holmes, M. Driggars.

On motion, the Governor was requested to furnish a copy of said petition to the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, and ask said company to inform the Board, as soon as possible, if any reasons exist why the request of the petitioners cannot be granted.

Commissioner Wombwell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, The Commissioner of Agriculture has produced evidence to this Board that John A. Fletcher, who purchased the N½ of NE¼ of Sec. 25, T 5 S., R. 13 E., on the instalment plan, under Entry No. 13,281, made the first payment, amounting to $53.50 to E. S. Crill, Treasurer, paid the second instalment of $53.50, to C. L. Mitchell, and paid the third and last payment of $52.94, to W. M. McIntosh, Jr., present Treasurer, amounting to $159.94; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Salesman be directed to make the deed to said John A. Fletcher for the above described land, and this resolution shall be Treasurer's voucher for $53.50, the second payment above alluded to, which was made to C. L. Mitchell, and not turned over by him to the Treasurer.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 9, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Hon. J. M. Bryan appeared before the Board on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company, and presented the following resolution, which had been adopted by the stockholders of said Company:

Resolved, by the Stockholders of the Apopka Canal Company, That J. M. Bryan be, and is hereby, appointed a committee of one to proceed to Tallahassee to obtain from the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund a precise, definite statement in writing, of what, in their opinion, still remains to be done by the Apopka Canal Company, according to the report of the engineer appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to inspect the work of the Apopka Canal Company, in order to fully and finally complete the execution of said Company's contract with the said Board of Trustees; and further, to negotiate with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund with reference to a conveyance by the said Board of Trustees to the Apopka Canal Company of all the lands to which the said Apopka Canal Company would be entitled upon the performance of their contract, upon the filing of a bond of the Apopka Canal Company with the said Board of Trustees, to be approved by them, conditioned for the performance of such work as may be designated.

Whereupon, on motion of Comptroller Bloxham, it was ordered that the Secretary request Col. John Bradford to proceed immediately to inspect the Apopka Canal and the work of drainage of the Apopka Canal Company, and report to the Board what, in his judgment, is necessary to be done by said Canal Company in order to comply with its contract.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased seventy Jefferson County Bonds of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, bearing the following numbers: 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 291 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319 and 320, and that he paid the sum of seven thousand dollars ($7,000.00) for said bonds with the coupons due July 1st, 1890, detached.

On motion of Attorney General Lamar, the purchase was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 12, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Mr. Jno. M. Cook, chief engineer of the Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and asked that the Trustees express an opinion as to the Legislative Land Grant to said Company. After discussing the matter, the Secretary was instructed to deliver to Mr. John M. Cook the following communication setting forth the views of the Board:

Tallahassee, May 12, 1890.

Mr. John M. Cook, Chief Engineer Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company:

Dear Sir—In response to your inquiry, I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to say, that ten miles of the Thomasville, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad having been completed and inspected by the State Engineer, the Trustees will, upon a showing of satisfactory progress in the completion of its line of road, convey to the Augusta, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company, the successor of the Thomasville, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company the lands to which it is entitled under its Legislative Land Grant of fifteen thousand acres per mile, whenever sufficient lands, subject to said grant, are patented to the State of Florida by the United States.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary Board Trustees Internal Improvement Fund State of Florida.

The matter of the payment of commissions to S. I. Wailes, under his contracts with the Board, was then taken up, and the Secretary was directed to send the following communication to Mr. S. I. Wailes:

Tallahassee, May 12, 1890.

Col. S. I. Wailes, Washington, D. C.:

Dear Sir—In response to your request, that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, inquire into and report as to whether or not any money had ever been paid to you as State Agent for procuring an adjustment of the claims of the State of Florida for lands granted by the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, and acts amendatory thereto, I am directed by the Board of Trustees to say that a careful investigation has been made into the records of the Board, as well as of the contracts entered into between the Trustees and S. I. Wailes, dated April 13th and October 19th, 1878, and it appears that at no time since you were appointed State Agent has any money been paid to you by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, or any of its officers or authorized agents; and it further appears that all payments to you under your contracts of April 13 and October 19, 1878, have been made in lands at the regular schedule prices in force at the time of such payments.

The basis of the statement that you had received money from the Trustees, under your contracts, is found in the report of the Treasurer of this Board made January 1, 1883, for the year 1881, wherein it appears that the following amounts are entered as payments to you:

S. I. Wailes	$ 2,122.09
Do.	829.94
Do	1,016.50
Do	2,855.45
Do	16,913.66
Do	10,096.52
Do	5,642.34
Do	240.00
Do	1,703.93
Do	126.48
Do	43.20
Do	209 14

Do	983.41
Do	25.00
Do	88 08
Do	148.28
Do	76.80
Do	228.00
	$43,452.00

In the absence of an explanation, such entries are calculated to convey the impression that the sum of $43,452.00-100 was really paid to you in money, when in fact no cash payments were made. By reference to the books of the Salesman and Treasurer of the Board for the period covered by such entries, it has been ascertained that as entries of land were made in the land office by you on account of the commissions due you, under your contracts, the certificates of entry were turned over to the Treasurer of the Board, who charged himself with the amount thereof in dollars and cents, just as though he had received money therefor, and in order to offset such debit entries, the Treasurer credited himself by entries of corresponding amounts as having been paid to you under your contracts, and omitted to make any explanation of the matter in his report, presuming, no doubt, that the matter was so well understood that no explanation was necessary.

The practice of entering up lands conveyed to you under your contracts in this way has long since been discontinued by the Treasurer of the Board.

Trusting that this matter has been explained to your entire satisfaction, I am, very truly yours,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary Board Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 23, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

In response to a communication addressed by the Governor to the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, furnishing said Company with a copy of the petition of Robert Lilly and other residents of the Caloosahatchie Valley, by virtue of a resolution of the Board in reference thereto, adopted on the 8th inst., Col. J. M. Kreamer, Superintendent of the said Company, appeared before the Board and submitted the following communication:

Hon. F. P. Fleming, President Board of I. I.:

Dear Sir—Agreeably to the request of the Executive Committee of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, I have the pleasure of meeting your Honorable Board of I. I. for the purpose of considering the petition from residents of the Caloosahatchie Valley and others, asking that the Okeechobee Drainage Company be requested to close the canals constructed for the lowering of Lake Okeechobee by the Caloosahatchie river outlet, and further by the creation of embankments or levees to prevent the water of Lake Okeechobee being drained through the valley of the Caloosahatchie river.

The wording of the petition would indicate that the residents along the Caloosahatchie river regard the present canals a menace to the security of their property. This is a natural result of associating the high stage of water, periodically occurring on the upper river, with the presence of the drainage canals, and not making due allowance for the excessive rainfalls concentrated within a limited time or extending over several seasons, as was the case prior to the fall of 1889.

The Company claims that the canals now built materially lessen the danger of overflow of the lands bordering the upper river, and while they fully recognize the fact that the canals are not at present of sufficient magnitude to permanently reclaim the inundated marshes adjacent

to Lake Okeechobee, the Company claims that these canals have effectually reduced the general water level of that region, by steadily carrying off the impounded water which had no possible outlet prior to their construction.

This was evidenced in 1889, after a period covering the rainy season of 1888, followed by the phenomenal rainfall of the winters of 1888 and 1889, which was further aggravated by the summer rains of 1889, lasting from the early part of June until the first of September.

I am confident that if the country adjacent to the Okeechobee lakes had not been protected by the drainage effected through the canals leading westward, an inundation of the upper valley of the Caloosahatchie would have resulted, which, in its destructive effects to the bordering lands, would have exceeded the great overflow of 1877, which occurred prior to the organization of our Company; and I regard it as a matter of congratulation that the high water subsequent to the rains of 1888 and 1889 were not more noticeable.

The borders of Lake Okeechobee and Lake Hicpochee consists of a great saw-grass marsh. Prior to the inception of our work, and subsequent to the great overflow of 1877, attempts were made by a corps of U. S. Engineers to reach Lake Okeechobee, but, due to the impracticable condition of the country, they were unable to do so, and it was with the greatest possible effort that the borders of Lake Hicpochee were approached. Since the opening of the drainage canals, horsemen have ridden to the borders of the last named lake, and no great effort is required to penetrate the marsh to Lake Okeechobee, and at present these vast marshes are practically dry.

Prior to beginning our operations the entire marsh country was permanently covered with water. At high stages this saw-grass was inundated to a depth of 24 to 30 inches. The water along the west margin of Lake Okeechobee, extending for a distance of over thirty miles, naturally finds an outlet through the Caloosahatchee Valley. The great marsh region west of Lake Okeechobee is triangular in form, the long base bordering the lake, the sides converging towards Fort Thompson, near which point the river affords egress for the water. In the center of this great marsh is Lake Hichpochee. When this area is inun-

dated, the engorgement of the river near Fort Thompson is a natural consequence, and the subsequent subsidence of the water is not rapid; and during this abnormal high stage of water, the flow is hardly appreciable in the vicinity of Lake Hichpochee, from the fact that the outlet through the comparatively narrow gorge at Fort Thompson, is not of sufficient magnitude to rapidly reduce the water level. It is, therefore, very plausible that if to this vast cross section of water, seeking an outlet, be added the area of the drainage canal, the unfavorable conditions would not, at the period noted above, be appreciably aggravated; and that the closing of the canal permanently, or by gates, would not correct the difficulty now periodically experienced during high stages of water by the residents of the upper river.

In view of the above conditions, which are fully known to the Company, data has been, and is now being secured, for the purpose of determining the best method of affording immunity against the recurrence of these overflows; and it is the judgment of the Company that protection would best be secured by the closing of the present canals, supplemented by the construction of a levee, commencing at a point on the main land south of Fish Eating Creek, thence easterly to a point in the Okeechobee marsh, thence southerly to a point south of Lake Hichpochee, and thence westerly to the main land. The presence of this levee would prevent the water from Lake Okeechobee entering the Caloosahatchie Valley, and consequently protect the bordering land of that river against inflow, excepting from the watershed of the country adjacent on the north and south. The levee south of Fish Eating Creek would give free access for its waters into Lake Okeechobee. This work would naturally be supplemented by a canal south west from Lake Okeechobee, on a line explored by the Company, the conditions of soil and topography being favorable to its construction. This canal would start from a point on the southwest shore of Lake Okeechobee, in the vicinity of Ritta Island. I have also recommended two large canals, leading to the Atlantic, from the southeast shore of the lake.

In this connection I would state that the present drainage canal has never been used for general navigation. Also, that the simple closing of the canals will not effect

the desired object of the petitioners, unless supplemented by the construction of levees as outlined. I regard the scheme of closing the canals and the construction of levees as entirely practicable, and believe they will effectually afford the relief asked for. And I am authorized to say that the Company would, if its present views of the situation, as above expressed, be fully confirmed by the investigations now being made, be willing to change its outlets for the waters of Lake Okeechobee, from the present route through the Caloosahatchie river, to those through the south and southeast, and by closing the canal and the construction of the levees, exclude the overflow of the lake from the Caloosahatchie Valley, if such changes should be regarded by the Board as work under and in accordance with its contracts with your Board.

Accompanying this, please find a crude draft showing the general line of levee proposed.

Yours truly,

JAMES M. KREAMER, Superintendent.

Tallahassee, May 24, 1890.

Wherefore, upon the motion of W. B. Lamar, it was *Resolved*, That the proposed change of the drainage outlet of the Lake Okeechobee and the proposed levees to protect the Caloosahatchie Valley from the overflow of the waters of said lake, as indicated in said communication, meets the approval of the Board, and it is agreed that the cost of the same shall be considered a proper expenditure under the drainage contract between the Board and said Company.

The Secretary presented bill of Cooper & Cooper, attorneys, for fees in case of Plant Investment Company vs. Trustees, for four hundred dollars, ($400), which was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 14, 1890.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Messrs. Albert L. Rice, President; J. B. Dill, Vice President, and W. F. Rice, Director, appeared before the Board in behalf of the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway Company, and asked that the time for commencing work be extended for six months from date; whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the time for commencing work on the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway, be, and the same is hereby, extended for a period of six months from this date, and that the reservation of land heretofore made for said Railway be, and the same is hereby, continued in force, subject to the further order of the Board and the rights of actual settlers.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 28, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Judge P. W. White appeared before the Board on behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and the Governor presented the following letter from said Company:

"St. Augustine, Fla., June 21, 1890.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming, Governor of Florida:

"Dear Sir—A portion of the waterway, which our company is now opening along the east coast of Florida, in all about one hundred miles, running north from Jupiter Inlet, is completed in accordance with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of the Act of the Legislature of Florida, approved by you, May 29, 1889.

"We should be pleased to have it examined, and approved of, by the Engineer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, at as early a date as possible. We will gladly do all in our power to facilitate the movements of the Engineer.

"Very respectfully,

"JNO. W. DENNY, President.

"For the directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Co. P. O. Address, Hyde Park, Mass."

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Colonel John Bradford, State Engineer, be instructed to inspect that portion of the Coast Line Canal claimed to have been completed, and report the result of such inspection to the Board.

Major M. R. Marks appeared before the Board and asked the Trustees to sell him certain land, upon condition that he would enter into bond to reclaim and drain the same, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida will sell to M. R. Marks all of the State's right, title and interest in and to township thirty (30) of Range thirty-six (36), township thirty-one (31) of Range thirty-six (36), township thirty-two (32) of range thirty-six (36), township thirty-one (31) of range thirty-seven (37), and township thirty-two (32) of range thirty-seven (37) south and east, excepting the sixteenth sections, at fifty cents per acre, payable in four installments, viz.: (1) Five thousand dollars in sixty days from the date hereof; (2) fifteen thousand dollars on January 1st, 1891; (3) fifteen thousand dollars on January 1st, 1892, and (4) the balance on January 1st, 1893; provided, that the said M. R. Marks, shall enter into a bond of fifty thousand dollars, with good and approved securities, to expend the sum of fifty thousand dollars within the next six years in the recla-

mation and drainage of said lands; and provided further, that if the first payment of five thousand dollars is not made in the time specified above, viz.: sixty days from date, no right whatever shall vest in the said M. R. Marks to purchase the said land.

Bill of David L. Dunham for inspecting and appraising value of land within the reserve of the Florida Coast Line Land and Transportation Company, amounting to $440.00, was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary,

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 1, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
Wm. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Messrs. Dexter Hunter and O. A. Buddington appeared before the Board and applied for lands for the Western Railway of Florida from Green's Cut to Melrose, a distance of 22 90-100 miles, whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, It appears by the report of John Bradford, State Engineer, that the Western Railway Company of Florida has constructed and completed its railroad from a point at the western terminus of the railroad constructed by the Green Cove Springs and Melrose Railroaod Company to Melrose, a distance of 22 90-100 miles, in accordance with the requirements of law and of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida; now, therefore, it is

Resolved, That the Salesman of the said Board of Trustees be, and he is hereby, directed to prepare a deed of conveyance, to be executed by the said Board of Trustees to the said Western Railway Company of Florida, for all the remaining lands patented to the State of Florida

within twenty miles of said roalroad, and to prepare certificates to the said Company of the unpatented lands within said twenty-mile limit to the extent of three thousand eight hundred and forty acres for each mile of said railroad so constructed. And it is further

Resolved, That if the said quantity of land cannot be located within said limit of twenty miles of said railroad, that the said Western Railway Company of Florida is entitled to such deficiency as there may be, to be made up out of any other lands patented, or to be patented, to the State of Florida subject to the full satisfaction of all land grants previously made to other corporations and not forfeited, and also subject to any valid liens or claims against the said lands.

The Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company and the Palatka and Indian River Railway Company by their General Counsel, J. R. Parrott, having made application for the conveyance of lands still due them under their Legislative Land Grants—It was ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds to 55,235 45-100 acres for the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company, and deeds to 81,506 14-100 acres on account of the Palatka and Indian River Railway Company—to be made to J. T. & K. W. Railway Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 3, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

Hon. Alex St. Clair Abrams appeared before the Board and presented the following communication:

"Office of the Tavares and Gulf R. R. Co.
"Tavares, June 30, 1890.

"To the Board Trustees of the Internal Improvement
"Fund, Talahassee, Fla.:

"Gentlemen—I hereby respectfully present the claim of the Tavares and Gulf Railroad Company to the alternate sections of land lying within six miles of the line of the road. In 1885 I began the construction of the road under an agreement with the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railroad Company whereby I was to use their charter and then secure their land grant. In 1886 the plat of our road was filed under the name of the Central Division of the J., T. & K. W. R. R., subsequently we built 18 miles and the J., T. & K. W. applied for the lands, and the claim, I understand, was disallowed. Governor Perry, however, assured me that the Board would allow the claim of my company to the alternate sections. I then built some ten miles more, and in February or March, 1888, entered into an understanding with Governor Perry by which my company was to receive 4,000 acres of saw-grass land remaining after the Apopka Canal Company had obtained their four-fifths under their contract with your Board. The Central Company not having completed their work within the time agreed upon, I respectfully submit that the successive extension of time granted them were all subject to the accrued right of this Company. However I have no desire to enter into any contest with the Canal Company. I feel that my Company is fairly entitled to the remaining 4,000 acres, all of which lies within the six mile limit. The State owns but little or no other lands within that limit along the entire line.

"We are now preparing to lay about ten miles more of additional track, and I would respectfully ask speedy action in this matter, as it may result very greatly to the benefit of the State, if this application is granted.

"I am, gentlemen, very truly yours,

"ALEX ST. CLAIR ABRAMS,
"For the T. & G. R. R."

Action on said communication was postponed.

S. A. Robinson, Esq., appeared before the Board and exhibited articles of incorporation of the St. Sebastian Sugar Valley Railroad Company, which had been filed

with the Secretary of State April 23, 1890; he also exhibited a plat of the proposed route, which had been prepared without an actual survey, and asked for a reservation of the alternate sections of land along the line of said road.

Whereupon it was ordered that the Secretary notify Mr. S. A. Robinson that the Board of Trustees could not reserve lands in any case until there has been an actual survey and the location of the road and a plat thereof, duly attested by the affidavit of the engineer, is filed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 12, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Lombwell, Commissioner.

The Governor laid before the Board the report of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, on the Apopka Canal, which said report is as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., May 26, 1890.

"To the Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund:

"Gentlemen—Pursuant to your instructions I have examined the work of the Apopka Canal Co., and beg leave to report as follows, viz.: I find that no work has been done by the Company since my last report, made about one year ago, except to extend the side ditches that were then reported as in process of being dug. The main canals are just about as I reported them in September, 1887, the water in lakes and canals and condition of the sawgrass lands about the same. Since that report that section has been subjected to unusually wet and dry seasons. There fell in the three months, December, 1888, January and February, 1889, twenty-seven inches of rain, and during June, July and August, 1889, thirty inches. With a rainfall in six months, from September 1, 1889, to March

1, 1890, of nine 75-100 inches, Lake Dora has only fallen twenty-three inches.

"For the last seven months (to May 1) the rainfall has been only about seven inches, and even with this unusually small amount, the waters of Lakes Apopka and Dora have not fallen as rapidly as they should. It is quite evident that neither the discharge from Apopka to Dora, nor Dora to Eustis, is sufficient. I would respectfully recommend that the canals be increased to double their present capacity, that is, fifty feet wide and six feet deep for the canal from Dora to Eustis, or else clean out the old canal and cut a new one east of Tavares, if found practicable, and from Apopka to Beauclair make the canal two feet deeper through the clay cuts, and forty or fifty feet wide the whole distance. This will, I think, solve the main problem.

"I would recommend also that the side or surface ditches be made both wider and deeper so as to double their present capacity. And in this connection I would suggest to the Company to have an examination and survey made to ascertain if the water which collects in the depressions in the saw-grass flats near Zellwood, cannot be better taken northward through Lake Ola to Carlton, rather than such a long distance across the saw-grass to the main canal, thus relieving the canal. Also I would suggest a change in the course of the canal at the crossing of the T. O. & A. Railroad. As now constructed it is quite awkward and objectionable, the canal losing the advantage of several inches of fall.

"The above plan of lowering Lakes Apopka and Dora by increased outlet and drying of the saw-grass lands is not entirely effective, and it is found too expensive and otherwise objectionable to lower the other lakes (Eustis, Harris and Griffin), which will give more fall for the waters of the upper lakes; then I would recommend a dike along the northern shore of Lake Apopka and a floodgate in the canal, so as to carry off the flood-water of Apopka in such a manner as not to overflow the saw-grass or other low lands. If I am correctly informed as to the difference of level along the line of lakes to the Oclawaha, this is quite practicable, particularly as the conformation of the northern shores of Apopka is favorable for such a dike, there being high ground, with a skirt of timber most

of the distance. Accompanying this is a map showing the work done, also the location of the different lakes and of the lands embraced in the drainage contract. All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer."

The Governor also presented the following letter from Hon. J G. Speer, Chairman Board of Directors of said company, with the accompanying resolution:

"Oakland, Fla., July 16, 1890.

"Gov. F. P. Fleming, Char. B. of I. I. F., Tallahassee, "Fla.:

"Gentlemen—Herewith I enclose a copy of resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Apopka Canal Co., and most respectfully ask the early and favorable consideration of your Honorable Board on this matter. Our views and feelings have been so often put before your Honorable Board on this matter, we feel it to be unnecessary to repeat them again.

We feel that the best interest of the State will be met by this course, and the rights and interests of our Company secured.

"Respectfully submitted.

"Very respectfully,

"J. G. SPEER, P., A. C. CO."

Copy of a resolution passed by the Directors of the Apopka Canal Company at a meeting held in Orlando on July 9, 1890. Present: J. G. Speer, J. M. Bryan, B. M. Sims and J. M. Willcox, Jr.

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida be, and is hereby, offered by the Apopka Canal Company the sum of one dollar per acre for each and every acre of land embraced by the terms of the drainage contract now existing between the said Board of Trustees and the Canal Company, the title to which is still in the Trustees, subject to be conveyed to the Canal Company upon the performance of its contract aforesaid; and for each and every acre of land, being one-fifth of the whole, to which the said Trustees are to retain title under the terms of the existing contract.

Resolved further, That the said Board of Trustees shall have a period of thirty days in which to signify to the

Apopka Canal Company their acceptance or rejection of the proposition contained in the foregoing resolution.

J. G. SPEER,
Chairman of Board Directors A. C. Co.

Hon. Alex St. Clair Abrams appeared before the Board and offered to purchase the entire lands embraced in the contract with the Apopka Canal Company at two dollars and fifty cents per acre, and also asked that the one-fifth of said land set apart for the State in said contract be given to the Tavares, Apopka and Gulf Railroad Company under the Internal Improvement Act, as it was within the six-mile limit of the railroad constructed by said company.

After due consideration of the various matters presented in connection with the lands embraced in the contract with the Apopka Canal Company aforesaid, action thereon was postponed, and it was

Resolved, That the Attorney General be requested to investigate the right of the Tavares, Apopka and Gulf Railroad Company to alternate sections of land along the line of its constructed road under the Internal Improvement Act, and also to the right of said Company to the lands embraced in the one-fifth reserved for the State under the contract with the Apopka Canal Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 1, 1890.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner.

The Governor called the attention of the Trustees to the suit brought by C. S. Adams against the Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida, in the Circuit Court of Leon County, in Chancery, and upon motion the Governor was requested to employ Hon. C. M. Cooper as counsel to

represent the Trustees in said suit, and to say to Mr Cooper that if he desired local counsel, the Board would employ one for him.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, It appears by the record of the deed of the Special Master in the Office of the Secretary of State, that Elverton R. Chapman purchased at a sale held on the 7th day of November, 1887, the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company, including all lands owned or acquired by the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company, and

Whereas, Said Elverton R. Chapman has applied for deeds to certain lands acquired by said Company and filed the following resolution in further support of his claim:

New York, July 15, 1890.

I hereby certify that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the *Atlantic and Western Railroad Company*, held in the City of New York, July 14, 1890, the following preambles and resolutions were unanimously adopted, as appears from the minutes of said meeting as they appear in the records of the Company, of which I am the custodian:

Whereas, This Company acquired title to all its property, consisting of the line of railroad from Blue Springs to New Smyrna with its appurtenances by deed from *E. R. Chapman and wife* he being the owner of all the property rights and franchises formerly owned by the *Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company*, having acquired the same at a judicial sale thereof, and

Whereas, This company has not acquired any right, title or interest in lands which had accrued, or may hereafter accrue, to the said Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company; and

Whereas, This Board is informed that said *Chapman* has made application to the Board of Internal Improvement of the State of Florida to have deeded to him certain lands that are due to him from the State of Florida on account of the construction of said Railroad; therefore

Resolved, That inasmuch as this Company has no interest in the aforesaid lands, or in any claims for lands

accruing from the State of Florida, but said lands and claims are owned by *Elverton R. Chapman,* the Commissioners of Internal Improvement of said State be, and they are hereby, authorized and requested to issue any deeds for lands that have been, or may hereafter, be appropriated on account of the construction of the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad, to said *Elverton R. Chapman.*

C. H. EICHS, Secretary.

And whereas there is a deficiency of the lands lying within six miles of the constructed line of the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Salesman be, and he is hereby, directed to prepare deeds to be executed to Elverton R. Chapman for the alternate sections lying within twenty miles of the constructed line of the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad to make up the deficiency in the alternate sections lying within six miles of said road.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

John Bradford, State Engineer, for inspecting the Apopka Canal, one hundred and fifty dollars, $150.00.

Postmaster, for stamps and box rent for Salesman's Office, six dollars, $6.00.

DaCosta Printing and Publishing House, for blank deeds, etc., for Salesman's Office, eleven 35-100 dollars, $11.35.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer, for expenses sending message to Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, and express charges, one 25-100 dollars, $1.25.

N. M. Bowen, for re-arranging land list in Bulletin, six 85-100 dollars, $6.85.

N. M. Bowen, for printing slips and shipping tags, Salesman's office, three 40-100 dollars, $3.40.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., for binding records of Railroad deeds and Canal entries, seven dollars, $7.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 20, 1890.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. P. W. White and George F. Miles appeared before the Board and presented the following petition:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 19, 1890.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"Your petitioner, the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, respectfully showeth to your Honorable Board it has completed its canals and waterways from Jupiter, in Dade County, to the west end of the Haulover Cut, in Brevard County, in conformity with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of the act approved May 29, 1889.

"That the same has been inspected by Col. John Bradford, the Engineer of the Board, who has made his report of such inspection, from which it appears that the length or distance of the completed canals and waterways between the 126-mile point, mentioned in section (4) of said act, and Jupiter, is one hundred and four miles and a half (104½), or seventeen sections of said canals and waterways, on which your petitioner is now entitled to thirty-eight hundred and forty (3840) acres per mile of the lands now held in reserve for the said Company.

"That your petitioner has also done a great deal of work and expended a very large sum of money in opening its canals and waterways between miles twenty-four (24) and one hundred and twenty-six (126) south from St. Augustine, including the said Haulover Cut, for which it has as yet received no portion of its land grant, and which is withheld under section four (4) of said Act "until the said canal and waterway shall be constructed through the whole of the divide separating Matanzas River on the north and Halifax River on the South in accordance with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of said act."

"That the distance covered by the prohibition of the fourth section of said act is one hundred and two miles,

on which your petitioner will be entitled to three hundred and ninety-one thousand, six hundred and eighty acres of land upon the completion of this portion of its works.

"Your petitioner therefore prays that an order be made by your Honorable Board designating and setting apart a sufficient quantity of its reserved lands to cover the amount which will be due your petitioner upon the completion of the work last mentioned, and that a deed be prepared conveying to your petitioner or its assigns, the lands to which it may now be found entitled, and which may be nearest to the line of the route of its canals and waterways, as provided in section (4) of said act. And your petitioner will ever pray, etc.

"P. W. WHITE,
"Attorney for Petitioner."

The following report of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, was then read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., August 6, 1890.

To the Honorable Board Trustees Internal Improvement Fund:

Gentlemen—Pursuant to your instructions "to inspect that portion of the Florida Coast Line Canal claimed to have been completed, and report the result of such inspection to the Board," I beg leave to submit the following: In obeyance to the above instruction I have examined the canal and waterway from the west end of Haulover Cut southward to Jupiter and find no portion of it less than five feet in depth and fifty feet in width. All the cuts and all places indicated on the coast survey charts as five feet or less were sounded, and a considerable number of the cuts measured as to width. In none did I find less water than above stated. Mean low water was taken as a basis.

The length of line inspected, viz.: from Haulover to Jupiter, is 134½ miles. The 126-mile point indicated in section 4 of the act approved May 29, 1889, is about one mile north of Georgianna, in township 25 South.

The main work of dredging that portion inspected has been done between the 157-mile point and Jupiter, a distance of 73½ miles.

In addition to the work done from Haulover to Jupiter, the Company have done much work at the Haulover (nearly completing it) and northward, and has beaconed the line from the head of Halifax River to Jupiter, a distance of about 190 miles, and vessels drawing 3½ feet can traverse the whole distance.

The following is a table of distances taken by scale from the Coast Survey charts, beginning at St. Augustine:

–0 St. Augustine.
16 Matanzas Inlet.
17 Summer Haven.
37 South End of Matanzes Cut.
42 Head of Halifax River.
48½ Ormond.
54 Daytona.
59 Port Orange.
65 Mosquito Light.
66 Mosquito Inlet.
70 New Smyrna.
84 Oak Hill.
94 Haulover.
104 Titusville.
121 Coco.
123 Rockledge.
127 Georgianna.
138 Eau Gallie.
145 Melbourne.
163 Sebastian.
167 Indian River Narrows, N. End.
171 Narrows P. O.
176½ Narrows, S. End.
187 Fort Capron I. R. Inlet.
191½ Fort Pierce.
203½ Eden P. O.
211½ St. Lucie River.
215 Jupiter Narrows, N. End.
222 Jupiter Narrows, S. End.
230½ Jupiter Inlet.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer.

After considering the foregoing petition of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and the report of the State Engineer, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved. That the Salesman be, and he is hereby, directed to select and set apart for the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company as a reserve to cover the grant of 3840 acres per mile for the 102 miles lying between mile 24 and mile 126 south from St. Augustine, which by the terms of Section 4 of chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, cannot be deeded until said canal and waterway shall be constructed through the whole of the divide separating Matanzas River on the north and Halifax River on the south, in accordance with the specifications prescribed in section 3 of said Act, and that the lands so reserved shall be taken from the lands lying within ten miles of the route of said canal, beginning with township twenty-one south, which is the southern limit of the lands heretofore conveyed to said company, and continuing south until the full amount of lands to be reserved, aggregating 391,680 acres, shall have been elected.

Resolved further, That the Salesman be, and he is hereby, directed to prepare deeds to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, or its assigns, for the lands due to the said company under section 4 of said act, for a distance of 102 miles, beginning at mile 126 south from St. Augustine, which, according to the report of the State Engineer, has been constructed in accordance with Section 3 of the said act, and that in the selection of the lands to be conveyed to said company, the Salesman will commence at the southern limit of the lands reserved, in accordance with the foregoing resolution:

Provided, however, That the lands heretofore applied for by actual settlers, in accordance with law, shall be included in said deeds.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 20, 1890.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"Gentlemen—Should there be any actual settlers, who are heads of families, now residing on any of the lands

which may be deeded to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and who have intended to make application for the same, but have failed to do so up to this time, they shall have the same benefit as if they had applied in time by complying with the terms of Section 2 of Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, approved May 29, 1889.

Yours respectfully,
GEORGE F. MILES, (Attorney in fact)
P. W. WHITE, Attorney for F. C. L. C. & T. Co.

The bill of Col. John Bradford for inspecting the Florida Coast Line Canal, amounting to one hundred and fifty dollars, was read and ordered paid—$150.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 21, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor read a communication from M. R. Marks asking for an extension of 15 or 30 days in the first payment he and his confederates were to make on certain lands.

On motion, it was ordered that an extension of 30 days be given M. R. Marks and associates to make the first payment.

The Governor stated that he had sent to Hon. C. M. Cooper certain papers he had requested for use in the case of C. S. Adams vs. Trustees I. I. Fund, and that Mr. Cooper had asked as a retainer in said case a fee of $150, which, on motion, was ordered paid Mr. Cooper.

The Governor read some letters and other papers relative to the case of Jas. W. Fitzgerald, wherein cer-

tain land bought by Fitzgerald had been improperly conveyed to S. T. Langford.

On motion, it was ordered that the Trustees take the proper steps to protect Fitzgerald's title, and that the Attorney General be requested to prepare a bill and send to the State Attorney of the Sixth Judicial Circuit to clear Mr. Fitzgerald's title, and to institute such legal proceedings as would do so.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., September 18, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor read to the Board several notices of the rejection by the Commissioner of the U. S. General Land Office, of certain lands lying principally in the southern portion of the State, which had been selected as swamp and overflowed lands under the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, granting certain lands to the State of Florida, and it appearing from the field notes made by the U. S. Surveyors, and from other information, that most, if not all, of said lands were and are swamp and overflowed lands, within the terms of the Act of Congress, it was

Resolved, That the Attorney General be, and he is hereby, requested to file notice of an appeal from the action of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and that the Salesman be requested to procure the field notes and other evidence to support the claim of the Trustees that said lands were swamp and overflowed lands and were subject to the grant made by the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had paid coupons due September 1, 1890, amounting to $1,155.00, from the following bonds:

Florida R. R. bonds, Nos. 1078, 1079, 1081, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1241, 1242 to 1249 inclusive; 1275, 1276, 1277 and 1476 to 1484 inclusive.

F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds, 139 to 143 inclusive, all of $35.00 each.

The following bills were ordered paid:

H. Reed, P. M., postage for Land Office for July, 1890, $60.40.

N. M. Bowen, for book for canal entries, Salesman's Office, $5.00.

Walker, Evans & Cogswell Co., balance on bill for walnut Woodruff Files for Salesman's Office, $194.16.

C. A. Bryan, for copy of bill and exhibits filed in case of C. S. Adams vs. Trustees, $6.40.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 1, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Board having under consideration the claim of Hon. Alex St. Clair-Abrams on behalf of the Tavares, Apopka and Gulf Railroad Company to the one fifth of the lands embraced in the contract of February 25, 1879, with the Apopka Canal Company, which was set apart by said contract for the Internal Improvement Fund, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The contract between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida and the Apopka Canal Company of February 25, 1879, was made prior to the passage of the Act of March 12, 1879, granting alter-

nate sections of swamp and overflowed lands to railroads, and

..*Whereas*, The Act of Congress provided, as the primary object of the grant of lands to the State, the drainage and reclamation of the said lands, and the Internal Improvement Act of 1855 provides that the necessary expense of selection, management and sale of said lands, and the payment of interest on the bonds issued by the different railroads under the provisions of said act, shall constitute a lien of prior dignity to all others on said lands, and

Whereas, All the lands embraced in the contract with the Apopka Canal Company were set apart prior to the passage of the Act of March 12, 1879, for the specific purpose of drainage and reclamation, and the payment of claims arising under the second section of the Internal Improvement Act of 1855, and

Whereas, Other railroads having prior rights to the Tavares, Apopka and Gulf Railroad Company have been refused deeds to the lands applied for by said Company for the reasons above set forth; therefore, be it

Resolved, That no part of the lands embraced in the contract with the Apopka Canal Company of February 25, 1879, are subject to the provisions of the Act of March 12, 1879, Chapter 3166, Laws of Florida, under which the Tavares, Apopka and Gulf Railroad Company claims the alternate sections of land.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to furnish Hon. Alex St. Clair-Abrams with a copy of the above resolution.

Another proposition from the Apopka Canal Company to purchase and drain the remaining lands included in the drainage contract with said company was submitted, and after due consideration the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, On the 25th day of February, 1879, prior to the passage of the act granting alternate sections of land to railroads generally, the Board of Trustees entered into a contract with the Apopka Canal Company whereby the said company were to enter upon, ditch and drain certain lands specified in said contract, and also to construct certain canals, and it was provided in said contract that when said company shall drain said lands and render

them fit for cultivation, and construct such canals as aforesaid, the Board would convey four-fifths of the land so drained to the Company, such work to be completed by the first of January, 1882. Upon application of the Canal Company the time for the completion of the work was extended from time to time, and

Whereas, Differences of opinion have arisen as to what would entitle the said company to the lands under said contract, and

Whereas, The Apopka Canal Company have expended a large amount of money, claimed by them to be fifty-six thousand dollars, in the work of draining and reclaiming the lands and constructing canals under their contract with the Trustees, and said Canal Company now make the following offer, in order that they may be placed in a position to completely drain and reclaim the lands embraced in the contract of February 25, 1879, that they will pay the maximum schedule price for swamp and overflowed lands, one dollar per acre for each acre of land embraced in the contract, which has not been heretofore sold, and will refund the sum of twenty-four hundred and forty-six and 29-100 dollars, being the purchase money of 2763 27-100 acres of the land embraced in the contract aforesaid, heretofore sold and advanced by the Trustees to aid in the drainage operations, and will also enter into a contract and give bond with sufficient sureties in the penal sum of thirty thousand dollars, conditioned that they will expend the sum of thirty thousand dollars in the drainage and reclamation of said lands within the next three years, said thirty thousand dollars being the amount estimated to thoroughly complete the drainage of said lands, to be expended bona fide in the work of drainage and reclamation, subject to the approval of the State Engineer.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing and of the necessity for selling said land to realize money to meet the liabilities of the Trustees in administering the trust under Section 2 of the Internal Improvement Act of 1855, be it

Resolved, That the Trustees will sell all the lands embraced in the contract of February 25, 1879, not heretofore sold, to the Apopka Canal Company, at the maximum schedule price of one dollar per acre, provided the said

Apopka Canal Company refund to the Trustees the sum of twenty-four hundred and forty-six 29-100 dollars, heretofore realized from the sale of lands within the canal reserve and advanced to said Company to aid in the work under its contract, and will enter into a contract, and give bond, with approved sureties, in the penal sum of thirty thousand dollars, conditioned that they will expend the sum of thirty thousand dollars within the next three years in the drainage and reclamation of said lands, subject to the approval of the State Engineer.

Resolved further, That upon the payment to the Treasurer of the Board of the sum of one dollar per acre for all of said land, and the sum of $2,446.29, heretofore advanced to said company, as aforesaid, and of the execution and approval of the contract and bond provided for in the foregoing resolution, the Trustees will execute deeds for said land.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 14, 1890.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor presented a letter from James M. Willcox, Jr., attorney for the Apopka Canal Company, which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Orlando, October 10, 1890.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming, President Board of Trustees I. I. Fund, Tallahassee, Fla.:

"Dear Sir—Judge Speer has received a copy of the resolutions of the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund upon the proposition which had been submitted by the Apopka Canal Company, and has requested me to acknowledge receipt thereof, and to call the attention of your Board to the omission of all mention of a certain point which was

agreed upon in our conference. You will remember that the Board consented to waive the canal feature of the original contract in view of the more complete drainage that can be effected by the removal of all requirements to maintain the water in the canal at a navigable depth. It is true that the condition of the bond described in the resolution is to expend the sum of thirty thousand dollars in the drainage and reclamation of the land, but as explicit mention is also made in the resolutions of the original contract, it might seem that the money must be expended in drainage according to the terms thereof, which would obligate the company in its operations to regard the navigability of the canal. In consideration of this, and to avoid any possible difficulties in the future, when the board may be constituted of persons ignorant of the full import of the understanding which has been reached, the canal company would respectfully suggest that a supplemental resolution be passed expressing the provision herein set forth. In all other respects the resolutions fully cover the terms of the canal company's proposition and its acceptance.

"Hoping to hear from your Board at its earliest convenience, I am, respectfully yours,

"JAMES M. WILLCOX, JR."

The following resolution was then adopted:

Whereas, The proposition made by the Apopka Canal Company to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to purchase and drain the lands included in the contract with them which was accepted by resolution of the Board dated October 1, 1890, involved the elimination of the navigable feature of the canal as provided by the contract, and which was agreed to by that Board; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the said contract with the Apopka Canal Company be further modified by eliminating therefrom the agreement of said company to make the said canal navigable.

The following bills were ordered paid:

H. Reed, P. M., box rent to September 30th, for State Land Office, $2.00.

Jno. C. Slocum, U. S. Surveyor General, field notes and list of swamp land selections, $25.00.

Value

The Treasurer reported that he had paid coupons from F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds Nos. 115 and 116, due March and September, 1890, amounting to one hundred and forty dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Nov. 17, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman of the Board presented the claims of John Wilkinson and Neil Wilkinson, asking that certain money they had paid to the State for land in Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 24 West, be refunded them upon the ground that previous to the conveyances to them the same land had been conveyed to the P. & A. R. R. Co. by deed No. 11992, April 17, 1883.

The Salesman explained how the mistake occurred, and on motion, it was ordered that upon the execution by John Wilkinson and Neil Wilkinson of quit claims for the lands so sold to them erroneously, that the sum of ($131.47) one hundred and thirty-one and 47-100 dollars be refunded John Wilkinson, being the purchase money paid for the NW¼ of Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 24 West, and that the sum of eighty dollars ($80.00) be refunded Neil Wilkinson, being the purchase money for E½ of NE¼, Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 24 West.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 22, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor presented a petition, received from Col. W. D. Chipley, Land Commissioner P. & A. R. R. Co., asking that certain lands be conveyed to the P. & A. R. R. Co. under the provisions of the Act of March 4, 1881. The petition contained a list of said lands.

On motion, it was ordered that all of the lands in said list lying next to the Suwannee River, and not within the six miles of any railroad having a land grant, be conveyed to said P. & A. R. R. Co., and the Salesman was ordered to prepare the deed at once.

The Governor also presented a letter from Col. Chipley in reference of Timber Agent Luther, and the collecting of stumpage for timber cut from other lands than those belonging to the State.

The Salesman was directed to send Mr. Luther a list of all vacant I. I. lands in the counties of Wakulla, Jefferson, Taylor, Lafayette and Levy, and to caution Mr. Luther not to collect stumpage for timber cut from any lands except those mentioned in said list, and to be particular and not take stumpage from any one unless the timber was cut from State lands.

The Salesman presented a petition from I. H. Stone of Sneads, Fla., asking the reduction of the price of the E½ of SE¼ of Section 34, Township 4 North, Range 7 West, upon the ground that said land was principally covered with water.

This petition was accompanied by a certificate of three reputable citizens that the land was mostly covered with water. On motion, the price of said E½ of SE¼, Section 34, Township 4 North, Range 7, was reduced to one dollar per acre.

A petition from B. F. Hampton, with brief and maps, were presented to the Trustees, asking that the Board convey to him certain unsurveyed lands in Section 18,

Township 7 South, Range 30 East, which he claims are lying between the St. Sebastian River and the Aveil & Vice grant.

After due consideration, it appearing to the Board that the calls of the said grant and the U. S. map and survey of the same go to the St. Sebastian River, it is the opinion of the Board that the State of Florida does not own any land between the said grant and the St. Sebastian River, and that it would be an injustice to the owners of the said grant holding to the eastern boundary of the same, for the Trustees to attempt to convey lands described as between the said boundary and St. Sebastian River as the basis of a title hostile to such owners. The application of Mr. Hampton is therefore refused.

Capt. H. T. Blocker made an application to purchase all the Internal Improvement lands proper in the State at one and 25-100 dollars per acre; and on motion it was

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees agree to sell all the Internal Improvement Lands proper unsold on January 1, 1891, to Haley T. Blocker for the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, reserving all rights to actual settlers.

A bill of $2.00 for P. O. box rent for Land Office for quarter ending September 30, 1890, was ordered paid.

Certain coupons due March and Setember, 1890, from bonds Nos. 115 and 116 of F. A. & G. C. R. R. amounting to $140.00, were ordered paid.

Account of Salesman for field notes and township plats, purchased from Surveyor General, amounting to $25.00, was ordered paid.

The Salesman was directed to ascertain if the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Gulf Railroad Company, and the Alabama, Florida and Atlantic Railroad Company had filed maps of the routes of the lines of their roads.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 2, 1890.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board presented nine coupons, purporting to be from bonds Nos. 62 to 70 inclusive, of the Florida Railroad Company, being so numbered on the face of the coupons, when in fact all the coupons are on one sheet and could not have been detached from more than one bond, and the signature attached to the coupons is not the signature, nor does it purport to be, of any officer authorized to act for the Florida Railroad Company, and, on motion, coupons were declared to be fraudulent, and the Treasurer was directed to so notify the firm who presented them for payment.

An application from S. I. Wailes, Esq., for authority to adjust the land claims of the I. I. Fund before the Land Department at Washington, and to procure approval of indemnity for I. I. lands, was presented, and on motion, the Board declined to enter into any arrangement on the subject.

Bill of C. A. Bryan, Clerk Circuit Court Leon County, for costs in the case of Charles Edward Lewis vs. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, amounting to fifty-three and 26-100 dollars, was read and ordered paid.

The Treasurer was authorized to pay to Hon. L. B. Wombwell, eleven and 58-100 dollars for land decisions for Salesman's Office.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 9, 1890.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An application was presented in behalf of Maj. M. R. Marks for an extension of his option on certain lands to January 1, 1891, and it was ordered that the extension asked for be allowed.

A letter was read from T. S. Tutwiller, General Superintendent St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company, asking that the State Engineer be directed to inspect the railroad constructed by said company, and it appearing that the plat of the railroad was not properly certified to, and no specifications of construction had been filed with the Board, it was ordered that the Secretary so notify Mr. Tutwiller and inform him that the Board would be pleased to act when the law is complied with.

Bill of Savannah Morning News for letter and note heads for Salesman's Office, amounting to twenty-two dollars, and bill of L. B. Wombwell for P. O. box, keys and express charges for Salesman's office, were both read and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 13, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A letter was read from Louis J. Brush making application for an inspection of the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad and the following specifications of construction which accompanied said letter were ordered spread upon the minutes:

"I, W. B. Sparks, President, do hereby certify that the Georgia Southern & Florida Railroad has been cleared of all standing timber from the Florida Line to the St. Johns River at Palatka, a distance of one hundred and eighteen miles, and that the same and every part thereof has been graded with a road bed of not less than twenty feet wide in cuttings and wider where required by State Engineer, with ditches from two to three and one-half feet in depth below grade, with such other depths as were directed by said State Engineer, and eighteen feet wide on embankments at the grade line, with slope of one and one-half feet base to one foot rise; that in all excavations and embankments, said road is so constructed as to have a perfect drainage, and to prevent any standing water to come within three feet of the lower side of cross ties; that the cross ties were of heart yellow pine, not less than eight feet long, with not less than nine inches face and seven inches in thickness, and are well and carefully bedded and laid within two feet from center to center; that at all water ways, sufficient space is left for the unobstructed passage of water, and that all side ditches that have been cut to carry off surface water were constructed by said Company under the direction of the Chief Engineer; that in the crossing of all streams, the bridges were constructed according to plans approved by said Engineer, and suitable draws have been put in over navigable waters to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same, decided by the State Engineer.

"The gauge of said road is four feet eight and one half inches; just and uniform rates are charged thereon, and no discrimination is practiced. The steel rail used on said road is sixty pounds per lineal yard, the best quality, and well fastened to the cross ties with best quality of spikes and plates.

"That the entire equipment of said road is first class, and at all times sufficient for the prompt transportation of all the passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

"That the grade on said road, in no portion thereof, exceeds fifty-two feet per mile, and no single curve thereof exceeds four degrees of curvature.

"That said road is thoroughly completed and equipped from the Florida Line to the St. Johns River at Palatka, a distance of one hundred and eighteen miles, and every requirement of law governing in the premises has been fully and duly complied with.

"W. B. SPARKS,
"Prest.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me this, the 4th day of November, A. D. 1890.

"C. B. WILBURN,
"Notary Public,
"Bibb Co., Ga."

Upon motion the Secretary was directed to request H. S. Duval, Engineer, to inspect the Georgia, Southern & Florida Railroad and to report the result of his inspection to the Board and the Secretary was further directed to notify Mr. Louis J. Brush of the action of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 22, 1890.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The application of R. B. Garnet for the purchase of certain marsh lands on the Maria Sanchez Creek in St. Johns County predicated on the ownership of a part of the Geo. I. F. Clark grant came up for consideration and it appearing that there is an antagonistic claim to said grant by Stella Dumas and others which is involved in legal procedings now pending before the Supreme Court; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Board decline to make a deed to the lands applied for until the determination of such litigation.

The following details of construction of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway were presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Kissimmee, Fla., December 17th, 1890.

"To the Honorable, the Board of Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla.:

"Gentlemen—As General Superintendent of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company I beg leave to report to you that this Company has graded 14.4 miles of road bed continuously and 1 mile of spur track from St. Cloud Junction to St. Cloud and furnished the cross ties therefor and completed the construction of the same, according to the following specifications of construction, viz:

"1st. The line of road for 30 feet from the centre has been cleared of all the standing timber.

"2d. The grading is for a single track, except at depots, turnouts and similar places (the specifications of which appear hereinafter) with a road-bed 18 feet wide in cuttings, with ditches from one to two feet in depth below grade, and from three to four feet in width; and 14 feet wide on embankments, at the grade line, with slopes of 1½ feet base to 1 foot rise; and so constructed in all excavations and embankments as to have perfect drainage, and not to permit any standing water to come within four feet of the lower side of the cross-ties. At the depot in Narcoossee the grading is for two side tracks, one for approach to turn table. At St. Cloud the grading is for one side track.

"3. The cross ties are of yellow pine 8 feet long, with not less than 8 inches face and 6 inches in thickness. are well and carefully laid within 2 feet from centre to centre.

"4. Sufficient space has been left at all water-ways for the unobstructed passage of water and all needed side ditches along the line of road have been cut to carry off the surface water.

"5. One stream is crossed at a point viz: The canal connecting Lake Tohopekaliga and Lake East Tohopekaliga, over which a draw has been put in according to the following specifications. Single track counter balance iron

draw span, consisting of one narrow gauge plate girder, draw span of 53 feet 6 inches over all opening 32 feet clear water way and resting on centre pier supported by 16 piles driven to good settlement.

"6th. The gauge is 4 feet 9 inches (standard width). A uniform tariff has been adopted for transportation of passengers and for hauling the freight in the cars of other companies, upon usual and equitable terms, with no discrimination against the freight or passengers of other companies, as appears by the tariff sheets herewith attached and marked respectively "A" and "B."

"7th. The iron rail used does not weigh less than 50 lbs. per lineal yard, and of the best quality steel manufactured by the Penna Steel Co., and is well fastened to the cross ties with the best quality of spikes and plates manufactured by the same company.

"8th. The entire equipment is first class and is at all times sufficient for the prompt transportation of all passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

"9th. The grade on no portion of the line exceeds 26.4 feet per mile, and no single curve exceeds 8 degrees of curvature, and this in only one instance in Kissimmee, the other curves on main line not exceeding 4 degrees, but on spur to St. Cloud referred to there is a sixteen degree curve for a short distance.

"The Company respectfully asks the approval of the Board, of the foregoing specifications of constfuction, and further requests that the State Engineer be directed to examine and inspect said road.

"State of Florida.

"Osceola County.

"Before me, the subscriber, personally came T. S. Tutwiler, who being duly sworn, says that he is the General Superintendent of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company; that the foregoing statement to the Board of Internal Improvement of the State of Florida contains the true and correct specifications of construction of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway from Kissimmee to Narcoossee through Runnymede, in the County of Osceola.

"T. S. TUTWILER, Genl. Supt..

"Sworn and subscribed before me
this 18th day of December A. D. 1890.
"J. M. WILLSON, JR. (Seal).
"Notary Public State at Large."

It appearing that a properly authenticated map of the route of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and details of construction having been filed as required by law, it is ordered that the request of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company for an inspection of its road be granted and that Col. John Bradford, engineer, be instructed to make the examination.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 27, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, governor.
Wm. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Orlando, Fla., December 23d, 1890.

"Hon Francis P. Fleming, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of I. I. F. of Fla.:

"Dear Sir—It becomes our duty as members of the committee which waited upon your Board in behalf of the Apopka Canal Co. in September last, to report to you with reference to the payment of $10,000 which it was understood should be made by the Company by December 25th, in order to avail itself of the very liberal terms of your resolution of Oct. 1st.

"We had every reasonable expectation until within the last three weeks, that the money could be raised, but owing to the financial panic which has been and is still existing, we find ourselves completely cut off for the present, from the sources to which we looked, and from all other channels through which money is usually derived for large business enterprises of the character contemplated. We have made every effort among our stockholders

and elsewhere to collect the funds necessary to meet our obligations which your Board informed us must be met by the first of the year, and also to place ourselves above the slightest suspicion of having trifled with your Board with regard to a matter so serious.

"We do not think it necessary to recite to you all the evidences of the stringency of the money market. One of our stockholders has been in Philadelphia and New York, whence he has but recently returned, and reports that confidence is so shaken that it is impossible to induce capitalists to even consider the investment of money at a distance. This is all known to you. We could not have advised you of our unsuccessful efforts before this, as we have just come from a meeting of the stockholders where a last strong endeavor was made to secure the money; but many of them are absolutely unable to meet any extraordinary demand upon their resources, and all of them feel more or less the present hard times. We must, therefore, place ourselves upon your clemency, and ask for further indulgence in this matter which means so much to us and to a number of other good citizens of Florida, who can ill afford to lose the little that by hard work they have been enabled to invest in the stock of our company, and which in the aggregate amounts to more than $68,000.

"We think that within 90 days that we can fight our way out of our present difficulties. Trusting that you will, under the circumstances, give this our report and application for indulgence all of the consideration that you can within the bounds of your duty, we assure you that the most strenuous endeavor will be made to satisfy the pecuniary requirements of your resolution by April 1st, 1891, believing that a change in the Northern money market will enable us to do so, and beg to sign ourselves,

"Respectfully Yours,

"LEONARD H. DAVIS.
"J. G. SPEER.
"JNO. M. BRYAN.
Committee for A. C. Company."

After due consideration the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Apopka Canal Company be allowed until April 1st, 1891, to comply with the terms of the resolution adopted by this Board October 1st, 1890.

Messrs. M. R. Marks, C. G. Butt and J. D. Beggs of Orange County appeared before the Board in reference to the purchase of certain lands in Brevard County for the purpose of drainage and reclamation.

Whereupon a contract was agreed upon in the following terms to be executed by and between the Board and M. R. Marks, Cecil G. Butt and W. L. Palmer.

"ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT entered into this the 27th day of Dec., in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety, between Francis P. Fleming, Governor of the State of Florida, William D. Bloxham, Comptroller, Frank J. Pons, Treasurer, William B. Lamar, Attorney General, and Lucius B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture, of the State of Florida, and, by virtue of their said offices, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, of the first part, and Matthew R. Marks, Cecil G. Butt and William L. Palmer, of the County of Orange and State of Florida, parties of the second part.

"*Witnesseth*: That the said parties of the first part, as such Trustees, in the consideration of the payments of fifty cents per acre for the lands hereinafter described, by the said parties of the second part, of the sums, and at the times, hereinafter stated, hereby agree, for themselves and their successors, to sell and convey by good and sufficient deeds, conveyances and assurances to the said parties of the second part, their associates, heirs and assigns or to such person or persons as may be designated by the said parties of the second part, an absolute, indefeasible estate in fee simple, all those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land situate, lying and being situate in the County of Brevard and State of Florida, described as follows to-wit: Townships Thirty (30) and Thirty-one (31), South of Range thirty-six (36), East, and Townships thirty-one (31) and thirty-two (32), South of Range thirty-seven (37) East, excepting the sixteenth section in each of said Townships; and the said parties of the first part agree to convey to the said parties of the second part, in like manner, all of Township Thirty-two (32), South of Range thirty-six (36) East, with the exception of the sixteenth

section, as soon as the same is patented to the State, provided the terms of this contract are complied with by the said parties of the second part, as herein set forth.

"The parties of the second part in consideration of such conveyances, agree with the parties of the first part to pay therefor the sum of fifty cents per acre, as follows, to-wit: Five thousand dollars cash on the date hereof; five thousand dollars on the first day of July A. D. 1891; five thousand dollars on the first of January A. D. 1892; fifteen thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1893; and the balance which may be due on said land shall be paid on the first day of January A. D. 1894.

"The parties of the second part further agree to expend and cause to be expended the sum of fifty thousand dollars within six years, in the reclamation and drainage of said lands, and make and deliver to the parties of the first part a bond with good and sufficient securities, for the sum of fifty thousand dollars, conditioned upon the faithful performance of this clause of their contract.

"*It is further agreed* that in case of default on the part of the parties of the second part or their associates, in making any of the payment before stated, the parties of the first part shall have the right and full power to declare this contract and all rights and privileges acquired, or which may be acquired at the time of such failure, to be forfeited and abandoned by the parties of the second part. And in the case of such default and the declaring of this contract as forfeited, the parties of the second part, for themselves and their associates, heirs and assigns, agree that within sixty days after notice from the parties of the first part that the contract has been forfeited to select lands belonging to the said parties of the first part, at the retail price of such lands, to-wit: One dollar per acre, for all moneys paid by the parties of the second part or their associates to the parties of the first part on this contract, such selections to be in a body, and if the parties of the second part or their associates shall fail to select such lands, as provided, then the parties of the first part shall have the right and are empowered to set aside such lands as may be deemed best by said parties of the first part, in settlement of such moneys.

"Upon the payment by the said parties of the second part and their associates of the said sum of fifty cents per

acre for said land, the parties of the first part will execute and deliver the deeds to said lands, in accordance with the terms above set forth, free from all encumbrances whatsoever."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 29, 1890.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

C. W. McLean, Esq., appeared before the Board and asked that the reservation heretofore made for the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway be extended to May 31st, 1891.

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the reservation of lands heretofore made for the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway be and the same is hereby renewed and continued in force until May 31st, 1891, subject to the further order of the Board and to the rights of actual settlers.

The Secretary was directed to forward the following letter to Jno. Denny:

"Tallahassee, Fla., December —, 1890.

"Jno. W. Denny, Esq., President,
"Coast Line Canal and Transportation Co.,
"Hyde Park, Mass.

"Dear Sir:—I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, to call your attention to the report of the appraisers appointed under Section 2 of Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida. When the settlers, whose homes were appraised under said law, located upon those lands the schedule price for all swamp lands was one dollar per acre and in many instances persons could homestead land at twenty-five cents per acre. It is not reasonable to suppose that the Legislature intended to raise the price of lands to actual settlers.

"The appraisers appointed under Section 2, above referred to, valued the lands of those settlers at prices ranging from one dollar and a half to five dollars per acre. When it is considered that those prices embrace the entire legal subdivisions, when in many cases but very few acres of the same were susceptible of cultivation, the conclusion is natural, that the appraisement was excessive.

"So thinking, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund deem it to be their duty to notify you, and through you your company, that they are unwilling to place the value of the lands of said settlers at more than their schedule prices for similar lands, except under peculiar conditions.

"Complaints have been numerous as to the valuations placed by the appraisers, and in view of the large grant made to the canal and the benefits to be derived from prosperous settlers in proximity to the same, the Trustees hope that you will concur in their view in valuing said land at one dollar per acre. Should you not do so, the Trustees are ready to convey to your company, at once, other lands in the canal reservation in lieu of those held by said settlers. The Trustees can not but believe that your company will accede to one or the other of these propositions. The Trustees feel that it is their duty to protect all the actual *bona fide* settlers on said lands and will use every legitimate power in their hands to accomplish the same, and hope that your prompt acceptance of one or the other propositions submitted will relieve the situation of any embracing features.

"Yours Very Truly,
"W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary,
Trustees Int. Imp. Fund of Fla."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 3, 1891.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman presented an application from Colonel Eugene C. Gordon to purchase and drain certain lands in Putnam, Alachua, Clay and Marion Counties, which the State now owns or that may hereafter be patented to the State as swamp and overflowed lands. The application was ordered filed and the Salesman was directed to inform Col. Gordon that the Board could not contract to convey any of the lands mentioned in the application until the same had been patented to the State and also suggest that Col. Gordon make a specific offer as to what he was willing to pay for the land applied for.

On motion it was ordered that the agreement to sell all of the Internal Improvement lands proper—now undisposed of—at the rate of $1.25 per acre, entered into with Capt. H. T. Blocker on November 22d, 1890, be extended for ninety days upon the same terms as mentioned in the first agreement.

The Salesman presented the claims of certain settlers in the reserve of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and after discussion it was agreed that the officers of the Canal Company be again corresponded with looking to a reduction in the graded price of those lands. The Salesman was ordered to notify the settlers that the Board would endeavor to make satisfactory arrangements for them.

The following report of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 2d, 1891.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees Internal Improvement Fund.

"Gentlemen:—Pursuant to your instructions I have inspected the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway, and find a good road-bed, track, trestles and draw bridges with light grades and easy curves except at terminals where trains

necessarily run slowly. Only in the matter of clearing is there any failure to come fully up to the requirements of the Internal Improvement Act. The road does not pass through much timbered land but a few trees have been left standing too near the track.

The length of road from Kissimmee to Narcoossee is 14.40 miles and a spur of one (1) mile is built to St. Cloud, the whole being laid with fifty pound steel rail.

Respectfully submitted,
JNO. BRADFORD, State Engr.

Bill of Col. John Bradford for inspecting St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway amounting to one hundred dollars was read and ordered paid.

Bill of H. H. Henly for recording deed from Hamilton Disston to the State, amounting to Four 25-100 Dollars was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 3, 1891.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Col. Eugene C. Gordon appeared before the Board and made a proposition to drain and reclaim portions of Orange Lake and other overflowed lands. After hearing a full explanation of the object of the drainage of said lands the Trustees decided to postpone action thereon until the matter could be thoroughly investigated.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased the following bonds, viz: One Columbia County Bond No. 83 of the denomination of One Thousand Dollars with coupons due January 1st, 1890, to July 1st, 1901, inclusive, attached, for One Thousand and Sixty-Two 50-100 Dollars; One Columbia County Bond No.

187 of the denomination of Five Hundred Dollars with coupons attached due July 1st, 1891, to July 1st, 1896, inclusive, attached, for Five Hundred Dollars.

Eight Madison County Bonds Nos. 53, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, and 106 of the denomination of Five Hundred Dollars each, with coupons due June 1st, 1892, to June 1st, 1912, inclusive, attached, for Four Thousand Dollars.

On motion, the action of the Treasurer was approved.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Fred. T. Myers, Attorney, as retainer in the suit of Chas. Edward Lewis vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, One Hundred Dollars.

E. G. Chesley, for services in State Land Office, One Hundred and Fifty Dollars.

DaCosta Printing & Publishing Company, for printing deeds, applications, affidavits and circular letters for Salesman's Office Forty Two 06-100 Dollars.

Post Master for stamped envelopes, stamps and box rent for Salesman's office, Sixty-one dollars and forty cents.

N. M. Bowen, for printing land lists, etc., for Salesman's Office, eleven and 70-100 Dollars.

W. U. Telegraph Co. for telegram, Seventy-Five cents.

Southern Express Co., for express charges on package from Sanford, Eighty-five cents.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 24, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The petition of the Atlantic and Western Railway Company for certain lands claimed by the Florida Coast

Line Canal and Transportation Company, was taken up and considered in connection with the briefs filed by each of said companies and action thereon was deferred.

A communication was read from Hamilton Disston, Esqr., giving amounts of expenditures for the drainage and reclamation of lands embraced in the contract between the Trustees and the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and it was ordered that a copy of said communication be forwarded to Col. J. M. Kreamer with the request that he furnish an itemized statement of said expenditures.

On motion action on the letter from Mr. Disston was postponed pending a reply from Col. Kreamer.

A letter from I. V. Harris in relation to a contract which he desired to make with the Board to drain and reclaim certain lands in the Everglades was read, and, as the lands he desired to reclaim were unsurveyed, the Board declined to accept his proposition, and on motion the Salesman was directed to forward Mr. Harris a copy of the resolution adopted by the Board July 1st 1889, and inform him that said resolution embraced all the privileges that could be given.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Legal complications are liable to arise by giving certificates for lands selected by the State as swamp, but for which patents have not been issued to the State, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Board hereafter will not issue such certificates.

Mr. J. W. Denny, President of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, appeared before the Board in behalf of said company, and after discussing the question of the rights of actual settlers on the lands reserved for the company, it was agreed between the Board and said company that all actual settlers who came within the terms of Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, who had become such settlers prior to the date of said Act, may be permitted to purchase these lands so settled upon, not exceeding eighty acres at one dollar per acre. Actual settlers upon said lands subsequent to the passage of said act shall be subject to the terms thereof as to appraisement and purchase. As to those lands upon which there was no settlement or improvements, but

which had been applied for, the Salesman was directed to write to each applicant and notify him if he had no *bona fide* settlement or improvements on the lands in the canal reserve in sixty days after the date of the notice that the land would be conveyed to the Canal Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 28, 1891.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. C. M. Cooper appeared before the Board in the interest of the St. Augustine Improvement Company and requested a quit claim from the Trustees to certain lands in Sections 20 and 29 of Township 7, South of Range 30 East, hereinafter described.

Mr. Cooper presented abstract of title of riparian owners, copy of deed from Bishop J. Moore of St. Augustine, and a quit claim from the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company conveying all of their rights, if any, in said lands to said St. Augustine Improvement Company. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Trustees quit claim to the St. Augustine Improvement Company sixty (60) acres of land, more or less, situated in sections 20 and 29, Township 7 South, Range 30 East and lying on the Maria Sanchez creek and between the Matanzas and St. Sebastian rivers in St. Johns County, Florida, more particularly described in the deed to be given said Improvement Company and in the papers filed in the State Land Office—the price to be paid per acre being one dollar.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 6, 1891.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Board resumed consideration of the application of Col. Eugene C. Gordon to purchase for drainage and reclamation certain lands in Putnam, Alachua, Clay and Marion Counties, embracing a portion of Orange Lake and other overflowed lands and, after due deliberation, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees decline to sell to Col. Gordon the lands he applied for.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 31, 1891.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
F. J. Pons, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Messrs. Lemuel H. Davis and James M. Wilcox, Jr., representing the Apopka Canal Company, appeared before the Board and requested that the Trustees make certain explanatory changes in the contract existing between said Company and the Board of Trustees, particularly as to the nature of the approval of the State Engineer, and as to including as a part of the expenditures

contemplated by the contract and bond given by said Company, the amount of depreciation in value of the implements and appliances used in the drainage and reclamation of the lands.

Whereupon the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That that portion of the resolution of the Board of October 1st, 1890, as to the expenditure of thirty thousand dollars in drainage and reclamation be amended so as to read as follows: That the said Company will enter into a bond with approved sureties conditioned that they will expend the sum of thirty thousand dollars, within the next three years in the drainage and reclamation of said lands subject to the approval of the State Engineer as to the *bona fides* of such expenditures in such drainage and reclamation.

Resolved further, that the difference beetween the actual cost of dredge boats and all implements and appliances employed by the Apopka Canal Company in the drainage and reclamation of the lands under its contract, and the value of the same at the time of the completion of the work will be considered in part satisfaction of the obligation of the bond to be given by said Company.

The following resolution was also adopted:

Whereas, a proposition has been made to this Board on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company whereby one dollar per acre, the maximum price for swamp lands, has been offered for a tract of swamp and overflowed lands lying along the easterly and northeasterly shore of Lake Apopka, described as all the unsurveyed portions of Sections 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 22, 23, 24 and the whole of Sections 10, 13 & 14, all in Township 21 South of Range 27 East and also all the unsurveyed parts of Sections 7, 18, 19 & 30 of Township 21 South of Range 28 East.

And Whereas, after an examination of a plat of the said lands, this Board recognizes that they are a part of the system of drainage undertaken by the said Apopka Canal Company and have been partially reclaimed by the work heretofore performed by the said Apopka Canal Company.

And Whereas, the Apopka Canal Company agrees that all the provisions of the drainage contract now existing

between it and this Board shall be carried out and performed in so far as they are applicable to the said lands, Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That in consideration of the maximum price aforesaid of one dolar per acre for the said lands, the receipt of two thousand dollars of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the performance of the said existing contract, this Board hereby agrees to convey all of the said lands to the said Apopka Canal Company or to its successors or assigns upon the receipt of the patent therefor from the United States and the payment of the balance of the purchase money, said lands to be surveyed by J. O. Fries, County Surveyor of Orange County, under the authority of this Board, and the conveyance of the Board to be based upon such survey.

A bond was then presented on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company, which was approved and ordered spread upon the minutes. Said bond is in words and figures as follows:

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That the Apopka Canal Company, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Florida, as principal, and Lemuel H. Davis, of Riverton, State of New Jersey, and Nat Poyntz, of Orlando, State of Florida, as sureties, (the said Nat Poyntz acting herein by his attorney in fact, James M. Willcox, Junior, duly constituted by letter of Attorney bearing date the twenty-seventh day of March A. D. 1891, and filed with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of even date herewith) are held and firmly bound unto the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in the sum of thirty thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, to be paid to the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, its successors and assigns, to which payment well and truly to be made, the said Apopka Canal Company, and the said Lemuel H. Davis and Nat Poyntz, bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"NOW THE CONDITIONS OF THIS BOND IS SUCH, That if the above Apopka Canal Company, its

successors and assigns, shall well and truly expend, or cause to be expended, within three yeears next ensuing the date of these presents the sum of Thirty Thousand dollars, in drainage and reclamation, subject to the approval of the State Engineer as to the *bona fides* of the expenditure of said sum of money in the drainage and reclamation, (the difference between the actual cost of dredge boats and all implements and appliances employed in the drainage and reclamation, and the value of the same at the time of the completion of the work, to be considered in partial satisfaction of the obligations of this Board) according to the terms and provisions of certain resolutions adopted by the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, on the first and fourteenth days of October, A. D. 1890, then this obligation to be void, or else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

"In Witness Whereof, the Apopka Canal Company has caused to be annexed hereto its corporate seal, and has caused these presents to be signed by its President, and Lemuel H. Davis and Nat Poyntz have hereto set their hands and seals, the thirty-first day of March A. D. 1891.

"THE APOPKA CANAL COMPANY,
"by LEMUEL H. DAVIS. (SEAL.)
"President.
LEMUEL H. DAVIS. (SEAL.)
NAT POYNTZ. (SEAL)
by his Attorney in fact
JAMES M. WILLCOX, JR. (SEAL.)"

"Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of—
B. B. WILSON.

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That I, Nat Poyntz, of the City of Orlando and the State of Florida, have made, constituted and appointed and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint James M. Willcox, Junior, of the said City and State, my true and lawful attorney for me and in mp name, place and stead to execute as surety for the Apopka Canal Company a certain bond in the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars to be executed by the said Company to such person or persons as may be directed by the Board of Trustees of the In-

ternal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, the said bond being that mentioned and required by certain resolutions of said Board adopted on the first day of October, A. D. 1890, giving and granting unto my said attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and everything and act whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said Attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

"In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal the Twenty-seventh day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and Ninety-one.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of. J. B. PARRAMORE. W. F. CRUNK. } NAT POYNTZ. (SEAL.)

"State of Florida } s. s.
County of Orange. }

"Be it remembered that on this day personally appeared before me, a Notary Public of the State of Florida, Nat Poyntz, to me well known as the person described in and who executed the foregoing letter of Attorney, who acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein expressed.

"Witness my hand and official seal at Orlando the 27th day of March A. D. 1891.

"J. B. PARRAMORE. (SEAL.)
"Notary Public."

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased the following bonds at par and accrued interest and his action was approved:—Eight (8) Leon County bonds of the denomination of Five Hundred Dollars each, Nos. 103, 106, 116, 126, 129, 130, 135 & 140, amounting to Four Thousand Dollars ($4,000.00).

Fourteen (14) Suwannee County Bonds as follows: No. 65, One hundred dollars, ($100.00); No. 64, One hundred dollars ($100.00); No. 63, one hundred dollars ($100.00);

No. 42, Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00); No. 41, Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00); No. 38, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); No. 37, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); No. 36, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00), No. 35, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); No. 31, One hundred dollars ($100.00); No. 30, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 29, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 28, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); and No. 45, One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00); amounting to Thirty Seven Hundred Dollars ($3,700.00).

Nine (9) Bradford County Bonds as follows: No. 75, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); No. 81, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 82, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 83, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 84, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 85, One Hundred Dollars ($100.00); No. 93, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); No. 99, Two Tundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); and No. 100, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.00); amounting to Fifteen Hundred Dollars ($1,500.00).

The Treasurer also reported that he had paid the following coupons from R. R. bonds:

Coupons due March 1st, 1891, Florida Railroad bonds No. 1078, 1079, 1081, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1476, 1477, 1478, 1479, 1481, 1482, 1483 and 1484, amounting to Nine Hundred and Eighty Dollars ($980.00). Coupons due September, 1890, and March, 1891, from Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central R. R. bonds Nos. 85 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 92, 221, 232, 233, 235, 328, 329, 330, 434 and 435, amounting to Eleven hundred and Twenty Dollars ($1,120.00).

Coupons due March 1st, 1891, from F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds Nos. 139 to 143, inclusive, amounting to One Hundred and Seventy Five Dollars ($175.00).

The account of the Floridian Printing Company for printing and binding reports of Secretary and Treasurer was presented and approved at One Hundred and Twelve & 50-100 Dollars ($112.50).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 20, 1891.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A letter from John W. Denny, President of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, was presented to the Board, and after due consideration the Secretary was directed to prepare a letter setting forth the views of the Trustees and forward the same to Mr. Denny.

In compliance with the instructions of the Board the Secretary prepared and mailed a communication of which the following is a copy:

"April 20th, 1891.

"John W. Denny, Esq.,

"Prest. Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Co.,

"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your communication of the 14th inst was presented to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and in response thereto I am directed to say that in the opinion of the Trustees the grant to your Company must be construed in its entirety in so far as it relates to the object for which the Legislature made such a generous grant.

"The intention of the Legislature was to secure a continuous water way from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay for the navigation of such boats and vessels as would come within the requirements of the charter to your Company, and it is well known that the most important and essential part of the work to be done by your Company is the divide to connect the Matanzas with the Halifax River. This work your Company has promised for years

to perform and so far there is no evidence in the possession of the Board that that part of the work is being prosecuted, or that it will be done at any time in the near future.

"The object for which the land grant was made will be defeated if this very necessary work is not completed. The Trustees have already conveyed to your Company, in strict compliance with the Act of the Legislature, a large quantity of land, and it is well known that a greater portion of the land so conveyed was to cover the grant made to your Company for waterways already navigable in their natural condition.

"It appears to the Board that the Legislature intended that the land given for such water ways should be deemed a part of the consideration for the performance of the more difficult portion of the work of constructing a canal.

"The progress made by your Company is not such as would, in the opinion of the Trustees, make it proper to pay over any moneys received for lands in its reserve, or to convey more lands; and it is deemed to be the duty of the Trustees to use every legitimate means to insure a completion of the canal so that the people may receive the full benefit of the grant of land made to your Company. That the people of the State and especially those residing in the vicinity of the proposed canal have rights that should be carefully guarded by the Trustees there can be no doubt, and it is hoped and expected that the work of construction will be resumed by your Company and pushed with such zeal as will insure a completion of the work at an early day.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.

"Secretary Board of Trustees Int. Imp. Fund of Florida."

The following reports made by H. S. Duval, Engineer, were read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"River Junction, Florida, April 4th, 1891.

"Hon. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Secy. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund.

"Sir: In accordance with the instructions of the Trustees I. I. Fund communicated to me through you Dec. 13th, 1890, to inspect so much of the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad as extends from the Georgia & Florida Line to Palatka, and to communicate with Mr.

Louis J. Brush, of Jacksonville as to the time of inspection, I have the honor to reply that after much unavoidable delay occasioned by the postponement of the time by the General Manager, that I examined on the 5th ultimo so much of the road as extends from Lake City to the Ga. and Fla. line, and on the 6th ultimo that portion which extends from Palatka to Lake City. I found the entire road rapidly approximating a finished condition. But at present I will receive and approve the construction and recommend for your acceptance, only so much as extends from Lake City northward to the Ga. & Fla. Line, a distance of 42 4-10 miles.

"In a few days I hope to complete the approval.

"Respectfully,

"H. S. DUVAL, C. E."

"River Junction, Florida, April 20th, 1891.

"Hon. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Secy. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund.

"Sir:—In obedience to the instructions of the Trustees I. I. Fund, communicated to me through you Dec. 13th, 1890, to inspect so much of the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad as extend from Georgia line to Palatka, I respectfully report that I completed the inspection of said road on the 18th & 19th inst—between Lake City and Palatka, a distance of 72.9 miles, making in all 115.3 miles, all of which I receive and recommend for your acceptance.

"Respectfully,

"H. S. DUVAL, C. E."

A bill of H. S. Duval for making inspection of two divisions of the Georgia Southern and Florida R. R., amounting to two hundred and fifty dollars, was presented and ordered paid.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased the following bonds, viz:

Four (4) Columbia County Bonds, Nos. 35, 37, 38 and 39 of the denomination of One Thousand Dollars ($1000) each; Three (3) Columbia County bonds Nos. 43, 194 & 196 of the denomination of Five Hundred Dollars ($500) each, and one (1) Columbia County Bond No. 173 of the denomination of One hundred Dollars ($100) at par and accrued interest. The action of the the Treasurer was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 12, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Col. Fred T. Myers, Attorney for the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway, appeared before the Board and asked that deeds be made to the odd alternate sections of land lying within six miles of the constructed line of said railway; Whereupon the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman be and he is hereby directed to execute deeds to the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway for the alternate odd sections of land lying within six miles of the constructed line of said railway as inspected and reported upon by the State Engineer.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased from George Lewis coupons from Leon County Bonds Nos. 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 34, amounting to Two hundred and ten dollars ($210.00); also Madison County bonds No. 73, Five hundred dollars, and eight coupons from bonds No. 70 to 77, inclusive, due June 1st, 1891, Two hundred and forty dollars, making a total of Seven hundred and forty dollars ($740.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 22, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. T. S. Tutwiler, Superintendent of the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company, accompanied by Fred T. Myers, Esq., Attorney, appeared before the Board and asked the Trustees to convey to said Company the quantity of lands to which it is entitled for the construction of the 15.4 miles of its railway recently inspected and favorably reported on by the State Engineer; and as the Commissioner of Agriculture has reported that there are no lands within six miles of said railway which said company can get under its grant they presented the following communication from Mr. Hamilton Disston, President of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, to the Board, viz:

"Philadelphia, Penna., April 24th, 1891.

"To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Gentlemen: In order to aid the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company, by enabling them to obtain some lands under their franchise and encourage the further extension of their railway, this Company is willing and does hereby release so much of the lands now reserved to them under their drainage contract in the following:

Township, South—	Ranges, East.
42.	37, 38.
43.	37, 38, 39.
44.	40.

as your Honorable Board may convey to the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company on account of lands that may be due them on railway now constructed.

"Yours Respectfully.
"HAMILTON DISSTON,
President."

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted by the Board:

"*Whereas* the St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company has completed 15.4 miles of its road, and is, under its charter, entitled to 3840 acres of the lands granted to the State of Florida under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, for each mile of road it constructs, such lands to be taken from the alternate sections within six miles of its line of road, and in case of a deficiency of such lands within the distance aforesaid, then to be taken from any such lands owned by the State not appropriated to other existing corporations;

"*And whereas,* the Commissioner of Agriculture has reported that there are no unappropriated lands of the class designated within six miles of the portion of the said Company's railway which has been constructed; and whereas the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company has filed with the Board written authority for them to convey to the said St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company the lands now reserved for said Land Company under its drainage contract with the Board and to which it will be entitled under said drainage contract, in the following townships to wit:

Townships, South.	Ranges, East.
42	37, 38
43	37, 38, 39
44	40

Now therefore be it

"*Resolved* by this Board that they will, under the authority aforesaid, convey to said St. Cloud Sugar Belt Railway Company the quantity of lands to which it is now entitled, to be taken from the odd numbered sections in the townships aforesaid as soon as patents are obtained from the United States for the State Selections in said townships:"

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"St. Augustine, Florida, April 23d, 1891.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida,

"Sirs: Whereas, The Hon. G. S. Hardee, State Senator for the counties of Brevard and Dade, has made an urgent appeal to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company to allow to single men over twenty-one years

of age, who are not heads of families, the same privilege of making homestead entries on the lands now held in reserve for the said Company, as is granted to heads of families by section two of the Act of May 29th 1889, granting lands to said Company; and whereas he has represented that such a policy would tend to the rapid development of said counties and the promotion of their material welfare by the introduction of a valuable class of immigrants which would result in great ultimate benefit to the Company in its future business, and whereas the said Company is disposed, as far as may be consistent with its obligations, to respond to the wishes of the people by contributing all in its power to the rapid development and material prosperity of the said counties.

"Therefore, the said company hereby consents that the lands now held in reserve for it shall be subject to homestead entry in quantities not to exceed 80 acres by single men who are actual settlers and who are over twenty one years of age, but who are not heads of families, upon compliance by such single men with the terms and conditions, and subject to the rules, regulations and restrictions prescribed in section two of the Act of May 29th, 1889, for the entry of said lands by actual settlers who are heads of families: *Provided*, that the moneys derived from any such sales to single men under this consent shall be held by the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the use and benefit of said company, in lieu of the lands for which the same was received and shall be paid over to the said company when earned, and provided further that this consent shall take effect from and after its approval by the Trustees.

"JOHN W. DENNY, President."

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida hereby approves the proposition of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company as set forth in the foregoing letter in so far as it extends the privilege of homestead entries on the lands contained in the Canal reserve to single men over twenty one years of age."

The following communications from the President of the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway Company ac-

companied by the specifications of construction were read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., May 11, 1891.

"To His Excellency,

"Hon. F. P. Fleming,

"President Board of Trustees I. I. Fund,

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your petitioner begs leave to show that the charter granted by the present session of the Legislature to the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway supersedes the charter to the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway Company and that this last named charter will expire by limitation on the 31st of this month.

"Your petitioner would further show that work is now being rapidly pushed on the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway, and that the said Railway will be completed in the time specified in said charter.

"Your petitioner would further show that the reservation of lands heretofore made for the Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railway will also expire by limitation on the 31st of May, and that in as much as the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway supersedes the said Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western, and is being rapidly built, would respectfully pray that upon the expiration of the reservation of lands for the last named road, the said lands be reserved for the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway.

"And your petitioner will ever pray,

"Very Respectfully,

"C. W. McLEAN,

"President of the Florida, Georgia and Western Ry."

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Gentlemen: According to the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act, passed January 6th, 1855, and the amendments thereto, which are hereby accepted on behalf of the Florida, Georgia & Western Railway Company, I respectfully ask that all odd numbered sections on the line of the route this day filed from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River lying within the limit to which said road is entitlted to reservation under said Acts, be

reserved for the benefit of said road. This Company is duly incorporated under an Act approved May 7th, 1891.

"Respectfully,

"C. W. McLEAN, Presdt.

"pp. WM. P. DENHAM,"

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"The following specifications of the Florida, Georgia and Western Railroad are respectfully submitted:

"First: The guage shall be standard.

"Second: It shall be equipped with the best quality of steel or iron rail of a weight of not less than fifty-six pounds per lineal yard and well fastened to the cross-ties with the best quality of spikes and plates.

"Third: The cross ties shall be of cypress, yellow pine, white, yellow, post or Spanish oak, white or red cedar, nine feet long with not less than nine inches face and eight inches thickness, well and carefully bedded and laid within two and a half feet from centre to centre.

"Fourth: The grading shall be with a road bed sixteen feet wide in cuttings, with ditches below grade for proper drainage and fourteen feet wide on embankments at the grade line, with slopes of one and a half feet base to one foot rise; in all excavations and embankments they shall be so constructed as to have perfect drainage and not permit any standing water within three feet of lower side of cross ties.

"Fifth: In crossing navigable streams suitable draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same.

"Sixth: The grade shall on no portion of the route exceed forty five feet per mile and no single curve shall exceed three degrees of curvature unless approved by the State Engineer.

"Seventh: The entire equipment shall be first class and at all times sufficient for the prompt transportation of passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

"Eighth: At all water ways sufficient openings shall be left for the unobstructed passage of the water.

"Ninth: All standing timber for sixty feet from centre on each side shall be filled and cleared.

"Respectfully submitted,

"C. W. McLEAN, Presdt.

"pp. WM. P. DENHAM."

And a map showing the actual survey of the route of the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River having been presented and ordered filed with the Salesman of the Board, it was

Resolved, That the odd numbered sections of the land patented to the State under the Act of September 28th, 1850, lying within six miles of the route of the Florida, Georgia and Western Railway, as shown by the map this day presented to the Board from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River be and the same is hereby reserved from sale for the benefit of said Railway until the further order of the Board, provided that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to effect the rights of actual settlers.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 6, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, be and he is hereby authorized and directed to at once pay over to the Treasurer of the State of Florida the sum of Twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000), moneys belonging to said Internal Improvement Fund and to take said Treasurer's receipt for the same. It is understood that the receipt given by the State Treasurer is to be taken up at some future time by

a formal obligation to be entered into, in accordance with the Act of the last Legislature authorizing the borrowing of money for State purposes—which obligation is to bear interest at the rate of one per centum per annum —and it is further understood that a receipt for said sum of money given in the name of the State Treasurer by Charles Monroe, Clerk in Treasurer's office, will be sufficient evidence of said payment into the State Treasury.

The following bond was presented, approved and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, Matthew R. Marks, Willis L. Palmer, and Cecil G. Butt of Orange County, State of Florida, as principals, and Gordon R. Rogers for Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) and Hy Spencer Brooker for Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20.000.00), and James L. Giles for Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) and H. F. Martyn for Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00), of Orlando, Florida, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00), lawful money of the United States of America, to be paid to said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, their successors or assigns, to which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"THE CONDITIONS OF THIS OBLIGATION ARE SUCH, That, *whereas*, Matthew R. Marks, Willis L. Palmer, and Cecil G. Butt, the principals to this bond, entered into a contract December 27th, 1890, with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to expend the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars in the *bona fide* drainage and reclamation of the following described lands, to wit: Townships Thirty (30), Thirty-one (31) and Thirty-two (32) South of Range Thirty-six (36) East, Townships Thirty-one (31) and Thirty-two (32) South of Range Thirty Seven (37) East, excepting the sixteenth section in each township, which said lands are to be conveyed to the said Matthew R. Marks, Willis L. Palmer and Cecil G. Butt by the Trus-

tees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida by the usual form of conveyance upon the payment of the sums of money specified in the contract, or such other sum in lieu thereof as the Trustees may agree to accept.

Now therefore, if the said Matthew R. Marks, Willis L. Palmer and Cecil G. Butt, or their successors or assigns, shall expend the sum of Fifty thousand dollars in the *bona fide drainage* and reclamation of said land within a period of six years from December 29th, 1890, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

"Signed and sealed in the presence of
"J. EDWARD ALLEN.
"J. A. McDOWELL.

"In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this the 25th day of June 1891.
"MATTHEW R. MARKS. (L. S.)
"WILLIS L. PALMER. (L. S.)
"CECIL G. BUTT. (L. S.)
"GORDON R. ROGERS. (L. S.)
"HY SPENCER BROOKER. (L. S.)
"JAMES L. GILES. (L. S.)
"H. F. MARTYN. (L. S.)

"State of Florida.
County of Orange. Before the subscriber, a Notary Public, in and for the State of Florida personally appeared the several persons who signed the foregoing bond and acknowledged that they signed the same for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me this Second day of July 1891.

"J. EDWARD ALLEN.
"Notary Public for the State at Large.

"State of Florida.
County of Orange. Before the subscriber a notary public in and for the State of Florida personally appeared Gordon R. Rogers, Hy Spencer Brooker, James L. Giles and H. F. Martyn, sureties on the foregoing bond, who each being duly sworn, deposes and says each for

himself and not one for another, that he resides in the State of Florida, and that he has sufficient visible property therein unincumbered and not exempt from sale under legal process to make good the amount for which he became surety on said bond.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me this Second day July, 1891." "GORDON R. ROGERS. (L. S.) "H. F. MARTYN. (L. S.) JAS. L. GILES. (L. S.) HY SPENCER BROOKER. (L. S.)

"J. EDWARD ALLEN.
Notary Public for the State at Large."

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

C. A. Bryan, for binding books, six dollars ($6.00).

The Floridian Publishing Company for 1,000 land list supplements, Fifteen Dollars.

H. Reed, P. M., for postage Salesman's Office from February 1st to June 30th, 1891, Forty Four & 85-100 Dollars ($44 85-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 17th, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Pensacola, Fla., 7-16-91.

"Francis P. Fleming, President and Members of Board of Internal Imp. Fund:

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Gentlemen: I hereby apply to your Board for deeds to the following lands:

"W½ of NE¼, NW¼ & S½ of Section 36 Township 2 South, Range 15 West, 560.14 acres. Also the unsurveyed part east of the bay in township 1 South Range 29 West, 700 acres. As heretofore explained, we have a considerable quantity of land deeded to us which we find other parties holding prior claim to thorough transfers from the U. S. Government. This, as I have heretofore promised, we will forulate and submit to your Board at an early date. In the meantime, we would be pleased to have deeds to the above; not merly as an offset for these errors, but as a credit upon the amount of land still due us.

"Yours truly,

"W. D. CHIPLEY, Vice president."

Whereupon it was ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds to the land specified in said letter.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 21, 1891.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. W. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A communication was read from Livingston Vann, Esqr., Trustees for Madison County bonds, in which he asked the Board to pay certain past due coupons detached from Madison County bonds with interest on said coupons from the date they became due and charge the same to the fund arising from the sale of lands under the act for the relief of bonded counties; and after due consideration the Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Vann that in the opinion of the Board, as heretofore ex-

pressed, the funds arising under the Act aforesaid can not be used in the payment of interest on past due coupons and that only the par value of coupons could be paid.

The Secretary presented to the Board a plat of the actual survey of the located line of the extension of the South Florida Railroad from High Springs to Pemberton Ferry, as originally filed in the office of the Secretary of State, together with a plat of an amended survey showing the location of the line of route of said railroad as relocated from Tompkinsville to Dunellon, which were ordered filed in the Salesman's office; and the Secretary also presented the following letter from the president of the South Florida Railroad Company which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Sanford, Fla., Sep. 14th, 1891.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Esq.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund.

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir: In conformity with the request contained in your letter of Sept. 3rd, I herewith hand you sworn certificate of survey of our proposed extension from Pemberton Ferry, northward to High Springs, Fla., duly signed by our Construction Engineer, Mr. Morton; also, tracing of the line as relocated from Tompkinsville, or Station 1051, north to Dunellon.

"I sent you on June 15th a tracing of the whole line from Pemberton Ferry to High Springs. The certificate enclosed you will note refers to the whole line Pemberton Ferry to High Springs. As I wrote you on the 1st of September, odd numbered sections of land are those desired to be reserved.

"If I have failed to comply with all necessary requirements kindly advise me at once and I will supply whatever is lacking.

"Very truly yours,

"J. E. INGRAHAM, President."

The following specifications of construction for the extension of the South Florida Railroad from Pemberton to Dunellon were presented, approved and ordered spread upon the minutes:

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PEMBERTON FERRY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA RAIL ROAD.

CLEARING.—"The clearing of the right of way will be either one hundred feet in width, or two hundred feet in width, as may be directed by the Resident Engineer, and will be classified as follows:

"Class. 1st. Dense wet swamps.

"Class 2nd. All other clearing.

All trees standing within the lines of the side ditches must be cut, so that the stumps remaining shall be at least two feet below the sub-grade line, except where grubbing is required; all other trees within the entire clearing must be cut off within two feet of the ground. All logs must be rolled to the outer edge of clearing, and where any Trestle work is to be built they must be rolled on the down stream side of such trestle, except when otherwise ordered by the Resident Engineer. All bushes, brush, branches and limbs must be cut down and piled up outside of the line of side ditches, so as to be burned. The contractor for clearing must keep up all fences and enclosures adjacent to his work until it is completed and accepted by the Resident Engineer. All clearing required in any station must be done, and all logs, limbs, branches and brush must be moved as above required, before the side stakes are set out. No contractor shall begin grading until the side stakes have been set out by the resident Engineer.

GRUBBING.—"Grubbing will be required where the cut does not exceed five feet in depth, or the fill two feet in height, and will be twenty-five feet wide where an excavation is to be made, and fifteen feet where there is to be an embankment. Grubbing will be divided into two classes.

"Class 1st. Grubbing in palmetto scrub and high hammock.

"Class 2d. All other grubbing.

EXCAVATIONS.—"All stumps and roots removed in grubbing must be piled up with the brush before mentioned. Excavations will be made with a base of twenty-four feet measured across at the level of the sub grade, which is seven inches below the bottom of the rail, and with side slopes of one and a half horizontal to one vertical, except when otherwise ordered by the Resident Engineer. The slopes must be taken out evenly, and all roots and stumps occurring thereon must be cut off even with their surface, so as to leave them in good smooth condition. Ditches and cuts will be taken out as required by the plans. The bottom of ditches is no where to be less than one and a half feet below the sub grade line.

"Side ditches of cuts must be continued along side of the bank sufficiently far to drain the cut, and so much of the material taken from them in any station as is not needed to make the bank in that station, will be paid for as excavation. Surface ditches will be made when directed by the engineer.

"The ditches of the berm on the edge of the cut will be fixed by the Resident Engineer, but will in no case be less than thre nor more than ten feet. Waste earth must be sloped back 1½ to 1.

EMBANKMENTS.—"All embankments will have a width of 15 feet on top, measured across at the level of the sub-grade line, which is seven inches below the bottom of the rail, and slopes of 1½ feet horizontal to 1 vertical. No logs, brush, roots, or stumps will be allowed to form any portion of a bank. Should the bank be formed from borrow pits, so much of the material must be borrowed at the side of the bank, as will form good ditches of the dimensions before specified, but in every case a berm of not less than three feet must be left where the height of the bank does not exceed 3 feet. The width of the berm for banks exceeding three feet will be equal to the height of the bank, but shall not exceed 10 feet. Edge of berm next the borrow pits must be lined parallel to foot of the bank and sloped 1½ to 1.

"All borrow pits on the same water-shed must be connected as directed by the Resident Engineer.

"Should the material borrowed for banks not be sufficient to leave ditches of the specified size, then the dimensions of the ditches will be determined by the amount of material required for the bank, unless otherwise ordered by the Resident Engineer.

"The depth, however, of the bottom of the ditches below the subgrade line must not be less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Embankments will be measured in bank when finished, to allow for settlement, an increase 10 per cent. will be made to the height of the bank, but this increase wil not be estimated or paid for. When the contractor has reason to believe that the true contents of any bank to be built by him cannot be ascertained by measuring the bank when completed, he shall call upon the Resident Engineer, before beginning work, to lay off borrow pits from which he can build the bank, the contents of which will be ascertained from the contents of the borrow pits.

"Should this work be deemed unnecessary by the Resident Engineer, the matter shall be referred to to the Assistant Engineer in charge.

DRAINAGE.—"All surface drains, necessary to carry off the water from any part of the line, shall be made at the same price per cubic yard as is paid for other excavations, and must be done as directed by the Resident Engineer, when and where required.

CLASSIFICATION OF MATERIAL.—"All excavated material will be classified either as earth, loose rock, solid rock, or clay and hard-pan.

"*Earth* will include sand, loam and gravel or any material which can be handled with equal facility.

"*Loose Rock* will include all stone and detached rock found in separate masses, containing not less than 3 cubic feet, nor more than 1 cubic yard, also, all lime stone, slate and other rock, soft or loose enough to be removed without blasting, although blasting may be resorted to.

"*Solid Rock* will include all rock in masses of over 1 cubic yard which can not be moved without blasting.

"*Clay and Hard-pan* will include all material not classified as earth, loose rock or solid rock, and all boulders containing less than 3 cubic feet each.

"All embankments shall be classified as earth, except where material of a higher classification has to be borrowed to form the bank.

"The Resident Engineer may require the contractor to build a bank from borrow pits or of the material taken from cuts. In the latter case no extra compensation over the regular price for earth will be allowed for material moved 300 feet or less. If the haul exceeds 300 feet an extra compensation of ..... cents per yard will be allowed for each 100 feet that the material may be hauled over the 300 feet limit. No over haul will be allowed unless done by written order of the Resident Engineer.

ROAD CROSSINGS.—"Road crossings and all other work required shall be done at such points and in such manner as the Resident Engineer may direct, and shall be paid for a sother excavations and embankments.

TURNOUTS.—"Turnouts shall be graded at such points and of such lengths, widths and other dimensions and specifications as the Resident Engineer shall direct, and shall be paid for at the same rate as is paid for other embankments and excavations.

ACCEPTANCE OF WORK.—"Contractor is at liberty to waste and borrow at his option within the limits of the right of way, except as hereinbefore provided. The contractor for grading must keep up all fences and enclosures adjacent to his work until it is completed and accepted by the Engineer. He must also keep up in good condition all work done by him, without extra cost to the Company until the same is accepted by the Resident Engineer, who must give the contractor written notice of such acceptance at time of making final estimate, but no work shall be accepted or final estimate made upon any section by the Engineer until

all other work under the same contract lying between it and that end of the line from which the track is to be laid is completed.

LUMBER.—"All lumber and timber must be of first quality yellow pine or black cypress, free from such defects as would unfit it for the purpose for which it is intended, sawed or hewn smooth and straight on all four sides, and must show on no corner more than one and one half inches of sap, and under no circumstances shall there be less than two-thirds heart on each face.

TRESTLES.—"All trestles and bridge work will be done in accordance with the plans.

PILING.—"Piles will be round, good, straight sticks of yellow pine, not less than twelve inches in diameter at the butt, nor less than ten inches in diameter at the small end, and will be of such length as are required by the Resident Engineer. Each pile must be driven so that its depth in the ground shall be at least 15 feet and must not settle at the last blow of a 2,000 pound hammer more than half an inch under a fall of 20 feet. Shoulders on piles must be cut off square at the elevations given by the Resident Engineer.

BANK SILLS.—"The ends of stringers on the banks must be supported by bank sills as per plans.

CROSS-TIES.—"Cross-ties must be of good, sound yellow pine, oak or cypress timber, hewn or sawed on four sides and sawed off square at both ends, nine feet long, ten inches wide, seven inches thick, and must show not less than nine inches heart on each face. Cross ties to be delivered in lots of 60 on each 100 feet of road bed, unless otherwise ordered by the Resident Engineer, and piled as he may direct. They must be inspected by the Resident Engineer, whose inspection shall be final. All cross ties are the property of the contractor, and are at his risk until accepted by the Resident Engineer, which acceptance must be in writing.

BURNING BRUSH.—"The contractor for furnishing lumber must burn all brush piled within 100 feet of any point at which he may deliver lumber before delivering same.

ORDER AMONG EMPLOYEES.—"The contractor will be expected to maintain order among his employes, not only upon the work, but in the neighborhood where they are employed. Disturbances arising from intoxication, or from gambling, are exceptionally objectionable, and any contractor upon whose work they occur will be considered unfit for future employment. Officers of the Company are to be respectfully treated, both by contractors and their employes. The Chief Engineer may require the dismissal of any employe of the contractor if in his opinion it is advisable to do so.

MISCELLANEOUS.—"The contractor shall not let or transfer his contract, or any part of it, or withdraw his personal attention without the consent of the Chief Engineer. In case of disagreement between the Resident Engineer and contractor as to the meaning of these specifications, the subject in dispute shall be referred to the Assistant Engineer in charge whose decision shall be final and binding. The Chief Engineer may, at his discretion, modify any part of these specifications, and such modification shall not render the contract void, but the increased cost of the work, if there be any, will be allowed to the contractor, provided he makes claim for the same in writing to the Assistant Engineer as soon as he is notified of such modification, and it shall be the duty of such Assistant Engineer to give the contractor such notice without delay. In case such modification reduces the cost of the work, the same shall be estimated in favor of the company. The Company reserves the right at any time to stop the work, abandon or change the line, and the contractor shall not be entitled to receive pay for any more work than is actually done on each station upon which work was begun and not completed and an addition of ten per cent on same, which said payment shall release the company from any further obligation or claim for damages on account of stoppage of the work. No claim for extra work will be considered except it be made in writing to the Resi-

dent Engineer within one month after said work was done.

"No Engineer shall forward a final estimate in favor of any contractor until the same has been examined by the contractor, who must sign on the blank his acknowledgment that he accepts the said estimate as a full return of all work done by him upon that portion of the line covered by his contract.

"H. S. HAINES, Chief Engineer and General Manager."

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted,

"*Whereas,* the South Florida Rail Road Company has filed a plat of the route of its Railroad from Pemberton to Dunellon, together with specifications of construction and has requested that the odd numbered sections of land be reserved, therefore be it

"*Resolved,* That the odd numbered sections of swamp land covered by the Act of Congress of September 28th 1850, lying within six miles on either side of the route of the extension of the South Florida Railroad from Pemberton to Dunellon, as shown by the plats of actual survey, be and the same are hereby reserved from sale for the benefit of said railroad subject to the rights of actual settlers on said land and subject also to the further order of this Board.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased the following bonds at par:

Two (2) Bradford County bonds, Nos. 30 and 31, of the denomination of One hundred dollars ($100.00) each.

Seven (7) Columbia County bonds of the denomination of One hundred dollars each, numbered 54, 57, 78, 172, 174, 214 and 259, and two (2) Columbia County bonds numbered 76 and 208 of the denomination of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars each.

One (1) Bradford County Bond, No. 26, of the denomination of One hundred Dollars, and one (1) Bradford County bond, No. 47, of the denomination of Five hundred Dollars.

Eight (8) Baker County bonds, Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each and one (1) Baker County Bond, No. 58, of the denomination of

Two hundred Dollars; and the following bonds which were purchased at par and accrued interest:

Four (4) Jefferson County bonds of the denomination of Five hundred dollars each, numbered 39, 40, 41 and 42.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid: Hugh A. Corley, for expenses *in re* Adams suit, Fifty Dollars.

Floridian Printing Company, for printing for Salesman's Office during June and July, 1891, Fifteen Dollars.

Western Union Telegraph Company, for telegrams sent in July, 1891, One & 75-100 Dollars.

H. Reed, P. M., for postage for Salesman's Office July 1891, Four & 08-100 Dollars.

W. D. Bloxham, for expenses incurred in adjusting matters in General Land Office, Washington, D. C., One hundred and sixty-eight dollars.

W. G. Powell, for services preparing transcript of records in Land Office for use in the case of Adams vs. Trustees, Forty-two Dollars.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had paid to the First National Bank of Tallahassee for coupons from F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds Nos. 139 to 143 inclusive, one hundred and seventy-five dollars, and for coupons from bonds Nos. 115 and 116 F. A. & G. C. R. R., one hundred and forty dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 6, 1891.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Hon. J. W. Trammell appeared before the Board on behalf of the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad and presented the following specifications for the construction of said Railroad:

"SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE LAKELAND, MOHAWK & TAVARES RAILROAD.

CLEARING.—"The clearing of right of way shall be 100 feet wide, all trees to be cut within two feet of ground, all logs rolled to outside of clearing, all bushes and brush to be cut and removed to outer edge of clearing.

GRUBBING.—"Grubbing will be required in all cuts and embankments not exceeding two feet in height, and will be sixteen feet wide in excavations, twelve feet wide in embankment. In all embankment where grubbing does not occur, all stumps will be cut at least two feet below the sub-grade line.

EXCAVATION.—"Excavations will have a base of sixteen feet measured across the sub-grade, which is six inches below the bottom of the rail. The side slope shall be not less than one horizontal to one vertical. The slopes will be taken out evenly, and all roots and stumps appearing thereon will be cut even with the surface. Good and sufficient side ditches shall be made, connecting with berm ditches in embankments. The width of berm on side of cuts shall be not less than three feet.

EMBANKMENTS.—"All embankments shall have a width of twelve feet measured across at the level of the sub grade line, and slopes of one and a half feet horizontal to one vertical. No logs, brush, roots or stumps shall be allowed to form any part of embankments. The width of berms for banks will be five feet. All borrow pits on the same water-shed shall be connected. The depth of berm ditches below the sub-grade line will be not less than one and a half feet. The maximum grade shall be one foot to one hundred feet.

LUMBER.—"All lumber and timber shall be of first quality yellow pine and black cypress sawed or hewn smooth and straight on four sides, not to show on corners more than one and a half inches sap.

PILING.—"Piles will be round, straight sticks of yellow pine, not less than 12 inches diameter at butt, nor less than ten inches diameter at small end. Each pile shall be driven to a depth not less than five feet in the ground—the driving of same to continue until the pile will settle not more than one inch under a 20 foot fall of a 1200 pound hammer.

BANK SILLS.—"The end of stringers on banks will be supported by bank sills 6x12 inches and nine feet long, showing not less than 9 inches heart on both sides, of which there shall be five properly bedded in each bank.

CROSS-TIES.—"Cross-ties shall be of sound yellow pine or cypress timber, hewed or sawed on four sides, and square at ends—eight feet long, ten inches wide, six inches thick and shall show not less than six inches heart on each face.

TRACK.—"The ties shall be properly spaced and embedded 2600 to the mile. The track laying shall be in a substantial manner, the rail shall be not less than 50 lb. steel, and shall be properly and securely spiked, and put in good line and surface."

A duly authenticated map of the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad having been filed, and Mr. Trammell having requested the Board to reserve the alternate odd numbered sections of land lying within six miles of said road, it was

Resolved, That the alternate odd numbered sections of the swamp and overflowed lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying within six miles on each side of the located route of the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad, as shown by the plat of said route filed in the State Land Office, be and the same are hereby reserved from sale, until the further order of the Board, for the benefit of said Railroad, subject to the rights of actual settlers on said lands.

A plat of the actual survey of the Arcadia, Gulf Coast and Lakeland Railroad Company was presented and ordered filed in the State Land Office, and the following specifications of construction were presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Arcadia, Fla., U. S. A. Sept. 21st, 1890.

"GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR ARCADIA, GULF COAST & LAKELAND R. RD.

"Road-bed on embankments 14 ft. wide.
Road-bed in excavation 18 ft. wide.
Right of way 120 ft. wide.
Maximum grade on main track 52.8 per mile.
Maximum curvature main track 4 deg.
Gauge. 4' 9".
Wt. of Rail. 60 lbs. per yd.

"J. H. POWERS,
Chief Engineer."

"DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS."

"I. CLEARING AND GRUBBING—Grubbing will be required the entire width of the road-bed in all excavations and embankments which are two feet or less in depth; also in all slopees where the safety of the road requires it.

"The Clearing shall be made on the entire length of the road whereever reequired, and shall not be less than one hundred and twenty (120) feet in width on the regular road-bed, and as much more as in the opinion of the Engineer will be required for the safety or convenience of the road. The ground on which the embankment and excavations are made shall be cleared of all vegetable and perishable matter. All stumps must be cut close to the surface and none left within two feet of grade in embankments. Fences, buildings, timber and wood on the line of the road are the property of the railway or land owner. If not removed by the owner within a reasonable time they shall be cleared off by the contractor, piled up, and preserved for the use of the owner or railway, without charge. The clearing and grubbing shall be paid for per station on the area actually covered by timber.

"II. WIDTH OF ROAD-WAY.—The road will be graded eighteen (18) feet in excavation and fourteen (14) feet wide in embankment, except when otherwise ordered by the Engineer in charge.

"III. SLOPE.—The slopes of excavations shall be generally one and one half horizontal to one vertical, and

of the embankments one and one half horizontal to one vertical. These are, however, subject to such modifications as the Engineer may direct. All slopes shall be made true and even.

"IV. DITCHING.—Whenever required by the Engineer, ditches shall be cut beyond the slope of both excavation and embankment, of such location and dimensions as he may direct.

"V. EXCAVATIONS.—Excavations shall include all material taken from cuts, ditches, channels for creeks, road-crossings and foundations not under water. The classification of all excavation shall be as follows:

"*Earth*—Earth will include clay, sand, gravel, loam, hard-pan, decomposed rock and slate, stones and boulders containing less than one cubic foot, and all other material of an earthy kind.

"*Loose Rock.*—Loose Rock will include all stones and detached rock, found in seperate masses, containing not less than one cubic foot, nor more than one cubic yard; also, all slate or rock, soft or loose enough to be removed without blasting, although blasting may be resorted to.

"*Solid Rock.*—Solid Rock will include all rock in masses of over one cubic yard, which cannot be removed without blasting.

"Waste from cuts shall not be deposited within six feet of side stakes of cuts, and shall not have a slope in direction of the excavation of less than 1½ to 1.

"VI. EMBANKMENTS.—The embankments to be formed fourteen (14) feet wide on the top, unless otherwise directed, with slopes generally of one and one half horizontal to one vertical.

"Whenever the embankment is formed from borrow pits or ditching on either side, such borrow-pits and ditching and the crest of the slopes thereof shall in no case approach within six (6) feet nor within double the depth of the ditch, of the foot of the proper embankment slopes. Whenever water courses or new channels for rivers require to be formed, they shall be put at such distance from the foot of the slope as the Engineer may direct. Care must be taken to exclude all perishable distance from the foot of the slope as the Engineer may built according to instructions from the Engineer, either by dumping from grade, or in layers of such thickness

as may be required. Such additional height from grade, usually one tenth of the amount of the fill, shall be given to embankments, without any charge, as the Engineer may deem necessary to compensate for shrinkage. Embankments about masonry shall be built at such a time and in such a manner and of such material as the Engineer may direct. Embankments shall be rip-rapped with stone, or otherwise protected against damage by water courses, by turning the stream or making new channels if required.

"VII. TRESTLE WORK.—Trestle work will be built of good sound, yellow pine or cypress, as directed by the Engineer, and to be either piled or framed as per plans and specifications furnished by him. Trestle work will be paid for per 1,000 feet board measure, and the price paid will include all bolts, washers, spikes or other material necessary to complete it as per plans furnished and all timber between foundation and cross-ties."

The following letter from the President of said railroad was also presented:

"Arcadia, Fla., U. S. A., Sept. 21st, 1891.

"Secretary of the Board of Internal Improvement Commissioners.

"Dear Sir:—In selecting our lands I wish you to withdraw the odd numbered sections of lands to which we would be entitled according to the charter and as per map filed in your office.

"Yours Very Truly,

"ANTHONY PETERS, Presdt."

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the alternate odd numbered sections of the swamp and overflowed lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying within six miles on each side of the route of the Arcadia Gulf Coast and Lakeland Railroad, as shown by the plat of said route on file in the State Land Office, be and the same are hereby reserved from sale until the further order of this Board, subject to the rights of actual settlers on said land.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 20, 1891.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Bombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

H. A. Ford, Attorney in fact for Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf Rail Road Co., appeared before the Board with resolution of the Directors of the said rail road Co., changing the route of said rail road between the following points—from near the centre of Section 5 Township 18 South Range 19 East, near Anita in Citrus Co., to the N. W. Corner of Section 27 of Township 19 South of Range 20 East, near Inverness in said county of Citrus —and furnished map of same.

On motion the change of route was approved and plat ordered filed with Salesman.

The following bills were approved and ordered paid:

H. Drew & Bro. for Record Book, $27.00.

1 Blotter Bath, $3.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 12, 1891.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Governor F. P. Fleming.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A petition was presented and read from David W. Meeker setting forth that the NE¼ of NW¼ of Section 24 T. 31 South R. 16 East, was entered from the State April 18th, 1873, by Robt. B. Hackney, Entry No. 6247, and that afterwards, to wit, on the 24th day of December, 1878, the same land was entered by Chas. W. Meeker, Entry No. 8690, and asking that the Board pay over to him as the grantee of Chas. W. Meeker, suitable compensation for the amount expended for the land, Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Board be and he is hereby directed to inform Mr. David W. Meeker, that the Board is willing to refund the amount of the purchase money in this case just the same as it has done in all similar cases when applied for.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 17, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
F. J. Pons, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas*, The Capitol building was in danger of becoming unfit for use on account of leaky roof, rotten floors and unsightly walls;

And Whereas, The bare and uncomfortable condition of the different offices, including the Supreme Court room, Senate Chamber and Representative Hall, and the two rooms added by direction of the two rooms added by direction of the Legislature, rendered it necessary that repairs should be made and additional furniture provided;

"*And Whereas,* there has been no adequate appropriation made for that purpose;

"*And Whereas,* The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, have had the use of the offices and furniture in the Capitol building since 1855, and the protection to their records, bonds, and money afforded by the watchman employed at the expense of the State of Florida;

"*And Whereas,* In the opinion of this Board some compensation should be rendered to the State for the protection and facilities afforded for over thirty years in administering the trust;

"*And Whereas,* Such compensation would be properly chargeable as a part of the expense of administering the trust under the Act of 1855, Therefore be it

"*Resolved,* That the Treasurer of this Board be and he is hereby authorized to expend such an amount as may be necessary to repair and furnish the Capitol and place it in such condition as will make it comfortable and prevent further deterioration, thereby facilitating the business of this Board and of the State of Florida; *Provided, however,* That all bills shall be approved by the Board of State Institutions.

"*Resolved further* that the amount of money so expended shall be deemed and held as compensation to the State of Florida for the facilities offered the Board of Trustees in the discharge of its duties under the trust."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 8, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

W. G. Denham, Esq., appeared before the Board and offered to enter into a contract to drain Miccosukie Lake and pay one dollar per acre for the unsurveyed portions of the land to be reclaimed by such drainage. The Board declined to take any action until Mr. Denham presents the written consent of the land owners around the lake, it being understood that the delay in procuring the consent of the land owners should not affect Mr. Denham's right as the first applicant.

The Governor read a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, dated December 1st, 1891, stating that S. I. Wailes waived claim of State to lands embraced in letters from Land Office, dated September 19, 22, 23 and 25, 1891, and the Board decided to approve the action of Mr. Wailes in the premises, and that the Commissioner of the General Land Office should be notified that Mr. S. I. Wailes will be directed to present written authority in all future cases of waiver.

The question as to whether or not the line of Railroad from Sanford to Tavares was a part of the system of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway, as contemplated by its charter, and as such entitled to the 10,000 acres land grant given to the J. T. & K. W. Ry., was taken up and after due consideration it was decided that the land grant to the J. T. & K. W. Ry. did not cover the line of road from Sanford to Tavares.

A letter of Saml. A. Swann, Trustee of lands of Florida Railroad Company and grantee of E. N. Dickenson was presented to the Board, whereby it is brought to the attention of the Board and appears by the record of deeds in the State land office that certain lands to wit:

Fractional Sections 1, 3, 11 and 13 of Township 3 North, Range 27 East which are within the six mile limit of the line of road of the said Florida Railroad Company and were selected by the said Company under the grant to it by the State of Florida by act of the Legislature of January 6th 1855.

And it further appears that the said lands were inadvertantly and improperly included in a deed executed by the Internal Improvement Fund to the Florida Southern Railway Company, dated May 13th, 1885.

And whereas it appears that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida by deed dated June 1st, 1867, conveyed to Edward N. Dickenson all of the even numbered sections within six miles of the Florida Railroad Company, which lands were subsequently conveyed by the said Dickenson to the Florida Land and Improvement Company, to and by said Company to Samuel A. Swann, and whereas in a deed from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to the Fernandina and Jacksonville R. R. Company, dated April 18th, 1885, certain of said lands so held by Samuel A. Swann were inadvertently and improperly conveyed, described as follows, to wit:

All unsurveyed fractional				Sec.	14	T.	2 N.	R. 27 E.
"	"	"	"		20	"	"	
"	"	"	"		26	"	"	
"	"	"	"		28	"	"	
"	"	"	"		30	"	"	
"	"	"	"		32	"	"	
"	"	"	"		2	T.	3 N.	R. 27 E.
"	"	"	"		4	"	"	
"	"	"	"		6	"	"	
"	"	"	"		12	"	"	
"	"	"	"		2	T.	1 N.	R. 28 E.
"	"	"	"		6	"	"	

Now therefore be it Resolved that the said Florida Southern Ry. Co. be and are hereby requested to quit claim the said lands so improperly conveyed to the said Samuel A. Swann, Trustee.

And it is further Resolved, that the said Fernandina and Jacksonville R. R. Co. be and are hereby requested to quit claim to the said Samuel A. Swann the said lands so improperly conveyed to said Company.

Resolved further, that the Secretary of the Board be instructed to send copies of these resolutions to the officers or persons in charge of the lands of said Companies.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 24, 1891.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman read a letter from Major E. C. Gordon, with reference to making an offer for the State lands embraced in lakes Miccosukie and Iamonia, in which he wanted, until the 10th of January, 1892, to make bids.

The Salesman was directed to write Maj. Gordon and say that the Trustees could not give any time on the Miccosukie lands as the Board are now considering an application for the same lands from W. G. Denham and associates, but that he could have until the 10th of January, 1892, to make a bid for the Iamonia lands.

The Salesman also read a letter from Mesrs. Lynch and Hampton in reference to certain lands purchased by cash entry No. 5445 from the U. S. Land Office by Col. R. R. Bridges, said land having been selected for the State as swamp and overflowed land and requested that the Trustees relinquish the State's claim to the same. The following resolutions were adopted:

"*Whereas*, It appears that the W½ of NE¼ and SE¼ of NE¼ of Section 3; the NW¼ of SW¼ of Section 14; the SW¼ of NE¼ of Section 23 and NW¼ of NE¼ of Section 34, all in township 30 South of Range 25 East are included in cash entry No. 5445 from the United States by R. R. Bridges, and whereas the said lands are included in selections made by the State of Florida under the grant from the United States of September 28th, 1850, but not yet patented;

"*And Whereas*, It appears by testimony submitted to this Board that the said lands are not of the character embraced within the said grant.

"*Now therefore be it Resolved* by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida that they hereby waive the claim of the said State to the said lands and consent that a patent may issue from the United States to the said R. R. Bridges or his legal representative.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 5, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The matter of contesting the decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office in regard to certain lands in Townships 21 and 22 of Range 31, Townships 20 and 21 of Range 32, was taken up and the Salesman read a letter from J. O. Fries, County Surveyor of Orange Co., in regard to the character of said lands.

The Salesman was directed to write to Mr. Fries, and ask him to support his statement as to said lands by an affidavit stating in full the character of each tract.

Messrs. W. G. Denham and associates having presented the contest of land owners around Lake Miccosukie, as suggested by the Board December 8th, 1891, renewed their proposition to drain said lake; whereupon the followiing agreement was drawn up, executed and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"This agreement entered into this the first day of January, A. D. 1892, between Francis P. Fleming, Governor of the State of Florida, William D. Bloxham, Comptroller, Edward J. Triay, Treasurer, William B. Lamar, Attorney General, and Lucius B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture of said State, as Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, parties of the first part, and William G. Denham and Benjamin W. Partridge, of Jefferson County, State of Florida, and James A. Marvin and Lawrence Haynes, of Duval County, Florida, and William P. Denham of Leon County, Florida, and their associates, parties of the second part, witnesseth:

"The parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the price of one dollar per acre, agreed to be paid by the parties of the second part, upon the terms hereinafter expressed, have bargained and sold to the parties of the second part, all those certain tracts or parcels of land known as Miccosukie lake, lying in the counties of Jefferson and Leon in the State of Florida, more particularly described as follows: The unsurveyed part of section one, two, eleven, and twelve; all of section thirteen, the unsurveyed part of sections fourteen, twenty-four and twenty-five, in township two, north, of Range three, east, containing in all an estimated area of two thousand six hundred and ninety-five acres.

"The unsurveyed part of sections two, three, seven, eight, ten, eleven, fourteen and seventeen; all of sections eighteen and nineteen; the unsurveyed part of sections twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty and thirty-one, in township two, north of Range four east, containing in all an estimated area of five thousand five hundred and thirty-one acres. The unsurveyed parts of sections twenty-three, twenty-four and twenty-six in township three north, of range four east, containing in all an estimated area of six hundred and eighty three acres.

"The payment for said lands to be as follows, towit: Five hundred dollars cash, and the balance in eighteen months from this date, which is agreed to be paid by the parties of the second part.

"It is further agreed by the said parties of the first part that they will execute to the said parties of the second part a good and sufficient deed of conveyance of the said land, upon the payment of the whole of the purchase money therefor as above agreed to be paid, but if the parties of the second part shall fail to pay for the said land within the time herein specificed, their rights in the premises shall be forfeited as to any land remaining unconveyed to them at that time.

"And it is further agreed that if at any time before the deferred payment shall become due the parties of the second part desire a deed for less than the whole amount of the said land, a deed of conveyance for such smaller portion will be made by the parties of the first part, upon

the payment of a sum which will equal five dollars per acre for the land so conveyed, such payment to be a credit upon the whole purchase at the rate of one dollar per acre, provided the whole payment shall be completed as agreed upon, otherwise the same to be the consideration for the smaller quantity so conveyed.

In testimony whereof, the parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals, and have caused the seal of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed, and the parties of the second part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

FRANCIS P. FLEMING. (Seal)
Governor.
W. D. BLOXHAM. (Seal)
Comptroller.
E. J. TRIAY. (Seal)
Treasurer.
W. B. LAMAR. (Seal)
Attorney General.
L. B. WOMBWELL, (Seal)
Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida, and ex officio Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

Signed and sealed by Francis P. Fleming and others, Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in our presence.
W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
C. A. FINLEY.

WILLIAM G. DENHAM. (Seal)
BENJAMIN W. PARTRIDGE. (Seal)
LAWRENCE HAYNES. (Seal)
JAMES A. MARVIN. (Seal)
WM. P. DENHAM. (Seal)

Signed and sealed by Wm. G. Denham, Benj. W. Partridge, James A. Marvin, Lawrence Haynes and Wm. P. Denham in our presence.

R. C. Parkhill as to Wm. G. Denham.
G. S. Van Buskirk as to Benj. W. Partridge.
G. R. Pitzer & Jas. B. Rosser as to signatures of Jas. A. Marvin and Lawrence Haynes.
F. P. Denham & J. C. Davis as to signature of Wm. P. Denham."

Mr. Fries account for the information furnished was approved for $10.00.

The account of H. Drew & Bro. for books furnished the State Land office was approved for $200.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 14, 1892.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

L. L. Harris, representing the Florida Midland Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and requested deeds for certain swamp and overflowed lands due said R. R. Co., which lay within six and twenty miles limit of the line of said railroad. Mr. Harris presented certain lists of lands for which he desired deeds. On motion it was ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds for said R. R. Co. for any lands within such limits that come within the provisions of a resolution of the Board of Trustees of June 28th, 1887.

The application of the Orange Belt Railway Company for deeds to lands lying within the six and twenty mile limit of said road was considered, and the Salesman directed to prepare deeds for any swamp and overflowed

lands now patented to the State which lay within six or twenty miles of the line of the Orange Belt Railroad and which was not within the limit of any other railroad.

In the matter of lands applied for settlers and now held for them which lay within the limits of said Orange Belt Railroad Company, the Salesman was directed to ascertain if said settlers' claims were bona fide and to report the same to the Board at as early a day as possible.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 25, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A communication was presented and read from Hon. C. M. Cooper, enclosing bill of Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, for thirteen hundred and fifty dollars ($1350.00) to cover fee for services rendered in the suit of Charles S. Adams, Administrator *de bonis non* of estate of *John* S. Adams, vs. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, for coupons, principal and interest, about $30,000.00, decided in favor of defendants in Circuit Court and bill dismissed.

It was ordered that the bill of Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, be paid upon the express condition however that the said firm will represent the Trustees in the event of an appeal to the Supreme Court without further charge

The attention of the Board was called to the fact that certain bonds, which were involved in the case known as the "103 bond case" and which was decided in favor of

the Trustees by the United States Supreme Court, had never been turned over to the Trustees by A. Doggett, Receiver &c., and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Executor or Administrator of the Estate of A. Doggett, deceased, and request the delivery of said bonds to the Trustees.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 26, 1892.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. Jno. W. Trammell appeared before the Board and presented the following petitions:

"To the President and Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.

"Gentlemen: Your petitioner, the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad Company, corporate under the laws of Florida, and by virtue of a Legislative charter-act entitled, on the conditions therein set forth, to lands therein granted, would respectfully call to your kind attention that a map of the surveyed route and a copy of the specifications for the construction of their road have been duly filed as provided.

"And your petitioner would herewith respectfully submit a list of lands selected, and contained in even numbered sections within six miles on either side of the route of the said road aggregating 1373.87 acres which have been withdrawn for the said Company.

"And your petitioner presents that its indemnity lands, which will greatly aid in the construction of its road, are to be made available to the Company by your Honorable Board's recognition of its rights thereto.

"Your petitioners are informed that the lands now belonging to the fund, supplemented by such of the State selections not yet patented as from their known character are certain to be patented under the swamp land act, make an acreage largely in excess of the amount of lands required to discharge the grants of railroads previously made, and to provide for all other requirements of the Fund, and which excess is reasonably sure to be more than enough lands to satisfy also the grants thereof to your petitioners

"Wherefore in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of its incorporation, being Chapter 4099, Laws of Florida, approved June 4th 1891; and in facilitation of the work of construction of the railroad of your petitioners hereby chartered, your petitioners respectfully pray that your Honorable Board will withdraw from market and sale and reserve for conveyance to your petitioners under said act a portion of the lands to be earned by such construction—say to an area of 100,000 acres. The lands to me so reserved to be such as may be covered by a selection from the lands granted by said act to be made by your petitioners and hereafter filed with your Honorable Board under the authority of such order of reservation.

"And your petitioners will ever pray.

"Most Respectfully,

"The Lakeland, Mohawk & Tavares R. R. Co.

"by Jno. W. Trammell,

"Acting President."

"To the Honorable President and Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.

"Gentlemen:—Your petitioners, the Arcadia, Gulf Coast and Lakeland Railroad Company, corporate under the laws of Florida, and by virture of a Legislative Charter Act, entitled on the conditions therein set forth, to lands therein granted, would respectfully call to your attention that a map of the surveyed route, and a copy of the specifications for the construction of their road have been duly filed as provided.

"And your petitioners present that the fact appears of record—with especial reference to the maps and other records of the office of the Honorable Commissioner of Lands—that a very large deficiency occurs in the six

mile limit of said road, and that the indemnity lands of your petitioners, which will greatly aid them in the construction of their road, are to be made available to the Company by your Honorable Board's recognition of their rights thereto. Your petitioners are informed that the lands now belonging to the fund, supplemented by such of the State selections not yet patented, and from their known character are certain to be patented under the swamp land act, make an acreage largely in excess of the amount of lands required to discharge the grants to railroads previously made, and to provide for all other requirements of the Fund, and which excess is reasonably sure to be more than enough lands to satisfy all the grants thereof to your petitioners, the said Arcadia, Gulf Coast and Lakeland Railroad Company.

Wherefore, in furtherance of the purposes of the Act of its incorporation, being Chapter 4097, Laws of Florida, approved May 7th, 1891, and in aid and facilitation of the work of construction of the railroad of your petitioners, thereby chartered, your petitioners respectfully pray that your Honorable Board will withdraw from market and sale, and reserve for conveyance to your petitioners under said Act a portion of the lands to be earned by such construction—say to an area of 260,000 acres. The lands to be so reserved to be such may be covered by a selection from the lands granted by said act, to be made by your petitioners and hereafter filed with your Honorable Board under authority of such order of reservation.

"And your petitioners will ever pray.

"Most Respectfully,

"The Arcadia Gulf Coast & Lakeland R. R. Co.

"by Jno. W. Trammell

"Acting Agent."

After considering said petitions the following resolution was presented and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Governor, Treasurer, Attorney General and Commissioner of Agriculture.

Nays: Comptroller.

Resolved, That the Secretary be and he is hereby directed to request the various Railroad Companies having land grants extending outside the six and twenty mile

limit to appear at a meeting of this Board to be held on the 11th day of February, 1892, and show cause, if any, why the prayers of the petitioners as above set forth should not be granted.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 11, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.

The petitions respectively of the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Rail Road Company, and The Arcadia, Gulf Coast and Lakeland Rail Road Company, praying a reservation of lands outside of the six mile limit of said roads to make up the deficiency of lands within said limit, coming on to be further heard after notice to the different companies having or asserting adverse claims to the said petitioners, and after argument thereon by Hon. Fred T. Myers, in behalf of the petitioners, and J. R. Parrott, Esq., representing the Jackonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company, The Florida Southern Railway Company and the Palatka and Indian River Railroad Company, Thomas E. Wilson, Esq., representing the Orange Belt Railway Company, Hon. R. A. Burford, representing the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railway Company, Hon. E. K. Foster, representing the South Florida Railroad Company, and a written argument by Hon. W. D. Chipley, representing the Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad Company, and upon due consideration thereof, it is ordered by the Board that the prayer of the said petitioners, respectively, of the said Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad Company and the Ar-

cadia, Gulf Coast and Lakeland Railroad Company, be and the same are hereby refused.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 17, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An application was presented from J. E. Ingraham, President, South Florida Railroad, for State Engineer to inspect the railroad recently completed from Pemberton Ferry to Inverness, and the Secretary was instructed to request Col. John Bradford to inspect said railroad and report thereon.

The Salesman reported that there were 2160 acres of I. I. lands proper yet due the State and he was authorized to sell the State's interest therein at one and 25-100 dollars per acre, the purchase to locate the same without expense to the fund.

Messrs. S. A. Jones and Benj. Harrison appeared before the Board and asked upon what terms Mr. H. L. Taylor could get control of certain swamp lands; whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida will contract with Mr. H. L. Taylor, of Buffalo, New York, for the sale, drainage and reclamation of the following lands accruing to the State under the act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, described as follows the remaining swamp and overflowed lands lying between Townships 20 and 38 South in Ranges 32 to 40 inclusive—upon the following conditions: That the said Taylor will pay to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees the sum of 50

cent per acre for said lands, one-third to be cash, and the remaining two-thirds in equal payments of one and two years, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

Provided, however, That the said Taylor shall enter into a good and sufficient bond in a sum equal to 50 cents per acre for said lands, to expend the amount of said bond, or so much thereof, as may be necessary in the work of drainage and reclamation of said lands.

Provided further, That the Board reserves the right to sell any of said lands to an actual bona fide settler pending the acceptance of this proposition.

Provided further, That the said Taylor can have six months from this 17th day of March 1892, for the acceptance of this offer. If not accepted and the third not paid in that time, this resolution to be of no effect.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 1, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Thos. C. Hoge, President of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and reported that 16.32 miles of main line and 9.05 of branch or spurs of said road had been constructed in addition to 48.83 miles heretofore examined and reported on by the State Engineer and accepted by the Board, making in all 74.20 miles of completed road, and requested that said portion of the completed road not heretofore examined may be examined by the State Engineer and if found properly constructed that the same may be accepted by the Board.

Major E. C. Gordon appeared before the Board and made the following applications in writing:

"Tallahassee, April 1st, 1892.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming,
"Prest. Board of I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:—In view of efforts which I am now making to have the Land Commissioner of the United States to take favorable actions upon application of the State to have patents issued for the lands embraced in the unsurveyed portions of Orange Lake, in Marion County, I have the honor hereby to propose a written agreement with your Board, that in case we succeed in obtaining patents from the United States Government to the State of Florida for said lands, amounting to about five thousand acres, more or less, that the Board will sell said lands to the undersigned, or such portion of same as the Florida Central and Peninsular R. R. Co. will not be entitled to acquire, at and for the sum of one dollar per acre, ¼ payable in cash, at the time the bond for titles is executed by State to undersigned, and balance in one, two and three years thereafter in equal annual installments, with 8 per cent interest, the undersigned to have the right to contract with the State by making suitable bond, to drain said land in or to protect himself and associates from claims of Railway Companies other than the F. C. & P. R. R. Company.

"Respectfully,
"E. C. GORDON."

"Tallahassee, April 1, 1892.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming, Prest.,
"Board of Internal Improvement Fund,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—I have the honor respectfully to make application for the purchase of all unsurveyed portions of Lake Iamonia, which belongs to the State of Florida, on the following terms and conditions: The price to be paid for said lands to be fifty cents per acre, of which five hundred dollars is to be paid in cash and the remainder to be paid in two equal annual installments of one and two years, that is the first installment to be paid one year from the first day of next January, the second

installment twelve months thereafter, with interest at 8 per cent. per annum, evidenced by notes of C. C. Harris, President of First National Bank, Decatur, Ala., for whom this purchase is made.

"Very truly,

"E. C. GORDON."

Whereupon it was resolved that inasmuch as the land applied for in Orange Lake is not yet patented to the State the Board will not act upon the application for purchase of land in said lake until patents are issued therefor.

Resolved, That the application for the purchase of Lake Iamonia be deferred until there is a full meeting of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 25, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The report of Col. John R. Bradford as State Engineer upon certain parts of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad, which he inspected in pursuance of an order of the Board, was then read and ordered recorded and filed and is as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 23, 1892.

"To the Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund State of Fla.

"Sirs:—Pursuant to your directions to inspect the additional Railroad recently constructed by the Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf Railroad Company and report the result of such inspection to the Board, I beg leave to report that the Company has constructed of its main line from the point of last inspection near the Homosassa

Junction to Inverness a distance of sixteen 32-100 (16 32-100) miles. The road is well constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Improvement Act and the modifications thereto allowed by your Hon. Board.

"In addition to this main line the Company has constructed branch lines or spurs as follows, viz:

Juliet Branch 1.40 miles. Hernando Branch 0.25 M.
Dunnellon Branch 3.27 miles. Rock Mines 0.48
Elliston Branch 3.10 miles. Crystal 0.55

"These branches are well constructed except that on a short distance on two of them the required number of ties are not in, but sufficient for the purposes for what these branches were built—the transportation of phosphates from the mines. In addition, the Company has more track on these branches but not being laid with standard rail it is not included in this estimate.

"Respectfully submitted,
"JNO. BRADFORD,
"State Engr."

Col. Bradford's bill for services in making said inspection was approved and ordered paid for $100.00.

The following resolution was passed in reference to application for deeds to certain lands for the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Rail Road Company made by Mr. Thos. C. Hoge, President.

"*Whereas,* The Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Rail Road Company has completed 65.15 miles of its main line and 9.05 miles of its spurs and branches; and

"*Whereas,* Said railroad company has only received deeds for 263,933.63 acres of land and a certificate for 155,743.82 acres of land, embracing in the aggregate 419,677.45 acres from the State under its land grant; and,

"*Whereas,* There is now due said railroad company 222,322.55 acres of land for its constructed road and branches, and

"*Whereas,* Mr. Thomas C. Hoge, president of said road, has requested the Board to convey to the Company as much land as possible under its land grant; therefore

"*Be it Resolved*, That the Salesman be directed to prepare a deed for 40,000 acres, more or less, of the lands inuring to the State of Florida under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, to the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company, said lands to be of that character, lying in the counties of Citrus, Pasco, Hernando, Marion, Hillsborough and Lee in the State of Florida."

The following communication from Special Agents of the General Land Office was read:

"Myers, Fla., April 18th, 1892.

"To F. P. Fleming,

"Governor of the State of Florida.

"Sir:—

"The undersigned special agents of the General Land Office have been directed by the Honorable Commissioner of the General Land Office, to conduct a hearing in the case of certain lands, situated in Township 51, 52 and 53, Rranges 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34, Lee County, Fla. (claimed by the State of Florida, under the swamp land act of September 28th, 1850.)

"You are hereby notified to be and appear at the Acme Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla., at 9 a. m. Monday, May 23d, 1892, to present such testimony in regard to the character of said lands, as you may deem proper in behalf of the State of Florida.

"Very Respectfully

"G. H. MARTIN,

"JOHN YOST."

The Salesman was directed to send copy of the same to Col. Jno. A. Henderson, State Selecting Agent, and request him to be present at the hearing to be had at the Acme Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla., May 23d, 1892, to assist in defending the State's claim to the land mentioned in the above communication.

The Salesman was directed to correspond with Messrs. F. A. Hendry, Saml. Summerlin, of Fort Myers, Fla.; with H. S. Duval, C. F. Hopkins and W. C. Sollee and other parties familiar with the county, character of the land in the above mentioned Township, and request that they furnish such information in regard to it as they may have. The Salesman was also directed to procure

field notes of the land in question from U. S. Surveyor General to present to Agents of the General Land Office at the hearing to be held May 23d next, in Jacksonville.

On motion of Mr. Wombwell the following resolutions were adopted:

"*Whereas*, The Florida Land and Improvement Company has given a quit claim deed to the following lands, which had been improperly conveyed to it at sundry times by deeds from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida under the contract entered into with Hamilton Disston of June 14th, 1881, to wit:

	Sec.	T.	R.
NW¼ of SW¼	17	14S	17E
SW¼ of NE¼	35	17	16
SE¼	9	18	21
SW¼ of NE¼	29	10	16
SW¼ of NE¼	29	25	30
NW¼ of NE¼	4	27	23
SW¼ of NE¼	20	29	28
SW¼ of NW¼	17	30	24
SW¼ of SW¼ & SE¼ of SE¼	29	"	"
SW¼ of NE¼, NW¼ of SE¼	10	32	28
NE¼ of NE¼	13	31	20
E½ of SE¼	36	"	"

aggregating 720 acres.

"*And whereas*, The said Florida Land and Improvement Company is entitled to an equal area of land in lieu of that improperly conveyed as aforesaid.

"*And whereas*, The said Florida Land and Improvement Company has requested a deed for an equal area of land elsewhere in the State of Florida of the character embraced in said contract, with Hamilton Disston, of June 14th, 1881.

"*Therefore be it Resolved*, That the Salesman is hereby directed to prepare a deed for said company to the following land which embraces an equal area as quit claimed:

	Sec.	T	R
SW¼ of SW¼	23	29	26
N½ of NW¼, SE¼ of NW¼ & SW¼ of SW¼	25	29	26
E½ of NE¼, SE¼ of SW¼	27	"	"
NE¼ of NE¼, SE¼ of NE¼ & SE¼	35	"	"
W½ of NW¼, NW¼ of SW¼	36	"	"

aggregating 720 acres—

"*And Whereas,* The Land and Trust Company of Florida, assignee of the Florida Land and Mortgage Company, has quit claimed to the State of Florida

	Sec.	Tp.	R.
NE¼ of NE¼	5	1S	14E
SE¼	7	14	13
SW¼ of NW¼	8	"	"

aggregating 240 acres, which had been improperly conveyed to said Florida Land and Mortgage Company by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of said State of Florida

"*And whereas,* The said Land and Trust Company of Florida, assignee as aforesaid, has requested that the Trustees convey to it 240 acres of land of the character quit claimed;

"*And whereas,* They are entitled to such amount of lands in lieu of those improperly conveyed;

"*Therefore be it Resolved,* That the Salesman be directed to prepare a deed to said Land and Trust Company of Florida to the following lands:

E½ of NE¼, NW¼ of NE¼ Sec. 25 T. 30 R. 26

NE¼ of NW¼, W½ of NW¼ Sec. 25 T. 30 R. 26

aggregating 240 acres in lieu of the lands quit claimed."

The Salesman stated that one Joseph W. Brown had entered through mistake and paid for SW¼ of SE¼ and SE¼ of SW¼ of Section 21 Township 5 South, Range 11 East; that Brown did not want the land and requested the entry cancelled and the money refunded, as the deed had never been delivered to said Brown. It was ordered that the Salesman cancel entry No. 14,430 in favor of Joseph W. Brown, of LaFayette County, Florida, for SW¼ of SE¼ & SE¼ of SE¼ of Section 21, Township 5 South Range 11 East and the Treasurer of the Board refund said Brown the purchase money, to-wit: $20.00.

The Governor read a letter from Mr. Jno. W. Denny,

President of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company in relation to the condition of his canal and enclosed copy of a letter from Capt. S. A. Bravo, of the Steamer St. Lucie, about the same matter. On motion of Mr. Triay, the Secretary was directed to send Mr. J. R. Parrott, General Counsel of the J. T. & K. W., copies of these two communications for his information and the Salesman ordered to file Mr. Denny's letters.

The proposition of Maj. E. C. Gordon, to purchase Lake Iamonia, was discussed and it was ordered that the Salesman prepare a notice that the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund would receive bids for the purchase of the lands included in what is known as Lake Iamonia in Leon County, Florida, said notice to be published in the two papers in Tallahassee, Florida, and one paper in Thomasville, Ga., the notice being as follows:

"SALE OF STATE LANDS.

"The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida will sell to the highest biddder 5,626 acres of land, more or less, lying in Leon County, Florida, which was originally covered by the waters of Lake Iamonia. Bids will be opened in the Executive Office, Tallahassee, Florida, June 20th, 1892. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

"Address bids to L. B. Wombwell, Tallahassee, Florida. Endorse on envelopes "Bid to purchase State land."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 7, 1892.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. J. E. Ingraham of Sanford, Fla., made a proposition to drain a million acres or more of that portion of the State known as the Everglades now unsurveyed.

The matter was discussed and it was ordered that the Salesman notify the rail road companies whose land grants had been earned, by constructing Rail Roads, but not satisfied in full, that propositions had been made to the Trustees to drain a portion of the Everglades by responsible parties, and to request said rail road companies to show cause on or before June 10th next why said drainage contracts should not be entered into.

Mr. J. E. Ingraham, President of the South Florida Rail Road Company, reported that the Dunnellon extension of said South Florida Railroad was completed and ready for inspection by the State Engineer.

On motion it was ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify Col. John Bradford, Acting State Engineer, to inspect said Dunnellon extension and make report on it as soon as possible.

Attorney General Lamar reported that he was preparing to institute suits against the various Land grant rail road and canal companies under the provisions of the Resolution adopted by the Legislature approved June 2d, 1891, entitled "Senate Joint Resolution, directing and impowering the Attorney General to institute legal proceedings to compel settlement of indebtedness to the State by different rail road and canal companies".

The Attorney General suggested the propriety of employing Hon. E. J. Vann of Madison to assist in the prosecution of said suits.

On motion the employment of Judge Vann as such assistant counsel was approved upon a fee not to exceed $500.00 if said suits were not successful; if said suits were prosecuted to a successful termination, such other reasonable compensation as may bep roper.

Fred T. Myers, Esq., Attorney for the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Gulf Rail Road Company reported that ten miles of road of said company was completed and requested that the Board have the State Engineer to inspect the same.

On motion it was ordered thatt he Secretary direct Col. John Bradford, Acting State Engineer, to inspect

the said ten miles of Railroad and report thereon as soon as practicable.

A letter from E. T. Paine of Jacksonville was read, stating that the St. Johns Railway Company, operating a rail road from Tocoi to St. Augustine, was allowing rail road to go down, running only one train a week, and that without any passenger accommodations, and also that it was reported that said rail road Company intended to give notice that it was going to take up the iron from the track and abandon the road entirely.

As this Rail Road had accepted the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act of January 6th, 1855, and received lands from the State for the construction of the Rail Road, the Attorney General was directed to take the necessary steps to prevent the St. Johns Rail Road Company from abandoning said line and to compel it to keep the road in proper condition as shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all passengers and freight ordinarily offering. The Attorney General was further authorized to request the State Attorney of the 4th Judicial Circuit to assist in such actions at law as was necessary in the premises.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 9, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Maj. M. R. Marks of Orlando, Fla., appeared before the Board and made an offer to drain and reclaim that portion of the State known as the Everglades, lying between townships 46 and 54 South and Ranges 38 and 41 East, covering about 500,000 acres of land upon the following

terms, towit: To pay fifty cents per acre for all lands embraced in the territory to be drained in the following payments: five per cent. of the purchase money within 90 days after date of the contract; ten per cent of the amount in 6 months, and 10 per cent of the entire amount of the purchase money every 6 months afterwards until the entire amount has been paid; to give a bond in the sum of $200,000.00 for the faithful performance of the work, and to be allowed six years to complete the entire work of drainage.

The proposition was discussed and he was notified that another drainage proposition was pending before the Board covering the same territory, but that the Board would give the matter further attention after the rail roads had been heard, who had been notified to appear before the Board and show cause if any why the contract should not be entered into.

The account of Jno. C. Slocum, Surveyor General, for $40.00 for field notes for certain lands ordered by the Trustees to be used at a hearing before the agents of the General Land Office to be had in Jacksonville, May 23d, was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 17, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. E. R. Chapman, with his attorneys, Hon. P. W. White and I. L. Harris, appeared before the Trustees and filed the following petition:

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"The petition of Elverton R. Chapman respectfully showeth that he is the owner of the rights and franchises of the corporation organized under the General incorporation laws of this State as the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company; that the said railroad company constructed the line of railway from Blue Spring to New Smyrna, both in the County of Volusia. That as owner of the rights and franchises of the said company, he is entitled under the act approved June 5, 1891, to about (265,000) two hundred and sixty-five thousand acres of land, of which he has received about sixty-five thousand acres, leaving a balance coming to him of about two hundred thousand acres on account of the road constructed as aforesaid from Blue Spring to New Smyrna, a distance of about thirty miles.

"That your petitioner has selected a list of lands granted to the State by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, which are not embraced within the twenty mile limits of any other Company or under a reservation for any other Company, which list is hereto appended and prayed to be taken and considered as a part of this petition as embracing lands to which he is entitled.

"Your petitioner therefore prays your Honorable Board to make an order requiring the Commissioner of Agriculture to prepare deeds for such of the lands due to him as aforesaid (to be taken from the appended list) as the said petitioner may select.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"EVERTON R. CHAPMAN."

After hearing arguments and statements from Mr. Chapman and his attorneys,

On motion, the Salesman was ordered to prepare a list of lands already patented to the State as inuring to the State under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, which were not within the six or twenty mile limit of some land grant railroad for submission to the Trustees as to whether the said lands shall be conveyed to said Chapman in accordance with the above petition.

Mr. Dexter Hunter, thorugh his Attorney, Hon. R. W. Davis, presented the following petition:

"To the Hon. Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.

"Petitioner, the Green Cove Spring and Melrose Ry. Co. respectfully shows that the State is indebted to it in the sum of Three Hundred and eighty-eight and 83-100 dollars, for lands to which it was entitled under its land grant but which were sold off by your Honorable Board. Atttached hereto is a list of the lands so sold off.

"Petitioner further shows that it is now indebted to the State for taxes and that its property has been certified to the State for non payment of taxes

"Petitioner further shows that it is its desire to pay its past due taxes and redeem its property. Wherefore petitioners pray that your Honorable Board will pass an order allowing to petitioner the said sum of three hundred and eighty-eight and 83-100 dollars to be credited on its past due taxes and accepted as part payment on the same.

May 17th, 1892.

"ROBERT W. DAVIS,
"Petitioners Atty.

"List of Lands sold within six mile limit of Green Cove Spring and Melrose R. R. reserve to settlers, for which the State is due said Company on completion of said road.

		Sec.	T.	R.	acres	
12366—Robt. N. Batton.	Oct. 5-83	17	7	25	40.05	$40.05
12848—Same.	July 30-84.	"	"	"	40.06	40.06
12982—Kindred B Drew.	Feb. 19-85.	5	7	24	40.21	40.21
13450—E Elizabeth Wall.	June 30-86.	31	8	24	39.82	39.82
12194—Emery D. Prevatt.	July 3-83	9	8	24	40.34	40.34
13564—Wm. Magee.	Jany. 6-87.	13	8	23	80.00	80.00
13793—Pinkston M Riggs.	Aug 15-88.	15	7	25	39.98	39.98
12870—W. M. Lee for use of James Swindle.	Sept. 1-84.	11	8	23	68.37	68.37
						$388.83"

On motion it was ordered that the Comptroller allow the amount mentioned in said petition in his settlement with Mr. Hunter for taxes, and the Treasurer of this Fund is hereby ordered to hand over $388.83 to the

Comptroller as a payment of that amount to the Green Cove Spring and Melrose Railroad Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 26, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham,. Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman presented the following accounts of witnesses and personal expenses incurred in Jacksonville in attending land cases before the Agent of the General Land Office.

C. F. Hopkins, Sr., as witness, $35.10.

H. S. Duval, as witness, $33.45.

Pierce McDonel, as witness, $33.45.

L. B. Wombwell, expenses, $31.75.

In the matter of the account of P. D. Cassidy, who acted as Notary and furnished the stenographer and assisted in preparing the papers in the land cases the Board thought his charges excessive and directed the Commissioner of Agriculture to return the account for explanation and correction.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 7, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The account of P. D. Cassidy in the matter of swamp land cases was taken up and approved for $57.50.

J. W. Newman's account as witness in same case was approved for $29.75.

The following small bills to Clerks of the Court for recording certain quit claim deeds for the Trustees were ordered paid:

W. H. Johnson, Clerk Ct. Ct. Polk County, $4.60.

D. C. Hull, Clerk Ct. Ct. Sumter ounty, $2.50.

J. A. Carlisle, Clerk Ct. Ct. Alachua County, $1.00.

The account of J. O. Fries, County Surveyor of Orange County, in the matter of description of certain lands in Orange Co., was approved for $5.00.

The account of L. B. Wombwell for amounts paid for freight on books from Jacksonville and telegrams for $6.60 was approved.

The Salesman presented the application of J. N. Hocker to have the Board quit claim its right to NE¼ of NE¼ of Sec. 11 T. 31 S. R. 24 E. which has been selected for the State but not yet patented and which had been covered by the mining claim of Blount & Hocker. The Governor having already given a quit claim of the State to this land, the board declined to act further in the matter.

The Salesman presented letters from Dr. J. V. Harris, of Key West, in relation to the purchase of certain lands on the coast in the Southern portion of the State, the land to be drained and reclaimned by said Harris and his associates and to be used to sultivate "Sanseveira" and other fibre plants and tropical fruits, etc., this land to be located in Township 60, South, Range 36 east or as near thereby as is possible. It was ordered that the Salesman notify Dr. Harris and his associates that the Trustees would sell him from two to four thousand acres of the land inuring to the State of Florida under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, situated in the locality above mentioned, at the rate of fifty cents per acre, and that a deed would issue to the said J. V. Harris and associates for the same upon the receipt of the money and a bond for an amount equal to the money paid in, that they will drain and reclaim the land within the period of two years.

The Governor read a letter from Col. S. A. Jones, of Tampa, in regard to the territory embraced in the contract to be entered into with — — Taylor, of Buffalo, N. Y., claiming that he was under the impression that the contract embraced lands from Township 20 on the North to Tonwship 60 on the south, from Range 32 to the Atlantic Ocean.

It was the opinion of each member of the Board that the proposition of Col. Jones, made March 17th, 1892, only embraced the land from Township 20 to 38, Ranges 32 to 40, and the Governor so wrote Col. Jones.

The Salesman presented letters from Hon. J. B. Brown, E. C. Harrington and others relating to the entry made by Geo. W. Pierce on lots 6 & 11 of Section 5 Township 59 South, Range 41 east. After reading the letters and affidavits filed in the case the salesman was ordered to cancel the entry of said Geo. W. Pierce to said lots 6 & 11 Sec. 5 Township 59 South, Range 11 east, being entry No. 14198 dated April 22d, 1890, and allow him to enter an equal area of land elsewhere and to require the said Pierce to surrender the original deed, and to file with the Salesman a certificate from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Monroe County that he had not sold or mortgaged said land to any one else.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 10, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atttorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

In pursuance of the notice given by the Board May 10th last to consider propositions to drain and reclaim the Everglades, Mr. J. E. Ingraham, representing his

drainage scheme embracing the lands in Southern Florida known as the Everglades; Hon. E. K. Foster, representing the South Florida R. R. Co. and the lines it controls, and Hon. R. A. Burford, for the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf R. R. Co. appeared before the Board in person.

The Florida Southern, Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West R. R. and Palatka and Indian River Ry. and lines controlled by said companies, by their attorney, Thos. Day, filed a protest against the sale, disposition or transfer by the Board of any lands belonging to the State until the land grants due the said companies respectively were satisfied.

The Pensacola and Atlantic R. R. Co., through Col. W. D. Chipley, filed a protest against any sale, contract or agreement being made by the Board by which the area of lands belonging to the I. I. Fund would be diminished.

Hon. R. A. Burford for the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf R. R. also entered his protest against the Board selling or contracting to convey any of the lands of the Fund.

Hon. E. K. Foster for the South Florida R. R. and lines under its control, protested against any sale of lands but did not object to a drainage scheme, provided that his R. R. Cos. should be allowed to take their pro-rata of the reclaimed lands that would inure to the State.

A letter was filed from Maj. M. R. Marks withdrawing his application to purchase certain of the Everglade lands.

A telegram from S. A. Jones to purchase the same lands upon the same terms as per his proposition of March 17th, 1892, was read.

After hearing the drainage proposition of Mr. Ingraham and statements made by Hons. E. K. Foster and R. A. Burford for their respective Railroad Companies and reading the protests of Mr. Thos. Day for the Florida Southern, Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West and Palatka & Indian River R. R. Cos. and Col. W. D. Chipley for the Pensacola and Atlantic R. R. Co., the Board took the matters into consideration, and it was decided

that in view of the fact that there was hardly a sufficient quantity of lands patented or to be patetnted to the State to satisfy the land grants of Rail Road Companies earned but not yet satisfied, that the Board could not accept any of the propositions to drain or purchase any of the unpatented State lands.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 11, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The report of the State engineer on the construction of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad was presented, read and ordered spread upon the minutes.

"Tallahassee, Fla., May 30th, 1892.

"To the Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund.

"Sirs:—According to your instructions I have examined the ten miles of road recently constructed by the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad Co., and respectfully report as follows:

"The road is well constructed of good material, the embankments being of unusual full size for a new road. The trestle bridges over the Ocklocknee and Sopchoppy rivers are of excellent plan and built in a more substantial manner than is usual on the new roads of the State. Track is laid with standard steel rail (50 lbs. per yard).

"The road is in daily use for hauling material and supplies, but the track is not yet surfaced up and somes ties are needed in the track; these, however are distributed along the road and a good force of hands are employed in placing them in, and surfacing.

" Respectfully submitted.

"JNO. BRADFORD,
"State Engr."

Hon. F. T. Myers appeared and asked that the road be accepted and that the lands to which the road would be entitled be withdrawn from sale; whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas,* The State Engineer has reported favorably on the construction of ten miles of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad from the ten to the twenty mile post,

"*Be it Resolved* by the Board that the said ten miles of road are hereby accepted as of the first day of May, and as being constructed in full compliance with the Internal Improvement Act.

"Be it further Resolved that the Commissioner of Agriculture with draw from sale the lands to which said company may be entitled under its land grant Act for the construction of said ten miles of road, said lands to be so withheld from sale until said Company completes its road to Tallahassee."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 20th, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. D. W. Gwynn, representing the owners of all the lands abutting on Lake Iamonia, and a delegation of citizens from the Lake, and Maj. E. C. Gordon of Athens, Ala., were present.

After some discussion of the matter of selling the land formerly covered by the waters of said Lake Iamonia and the reading of the following petition by Judge Gwynn, representing the owners of the land adjacent to the lake, to wit:

"Iamonia, Leon Co., Fla., June 11th, 1892.

"To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Your petitioners respectfully show that they own the lands bordering on Lake Iamonia in the northern part of Leon County in the said State of Florida. That their lands were originally purchased from the Government of the United States down to the borders of said lake with a view of having the benefit not only of water but of the use of grass and pasturage for their stock, not supposing that the lake or the land underlying said lake would ever be put on the market for sale, but that it would ever remain open to them as a pasture where the same is shallow and for fishing and grazing and hunting grounds; but said lake was subsequently granted by the United States to the State of Florida, and your petitioners felt secure in the enjoyment of their rights and privileges until said lake and land was offered for sale by an order of your Honorable Board, as appears from an advertisement published in the newspapers in the city of Tallahassee. Your petitioners pray that your Honorable body will withdraw said land from sale and allow them to remain as a public lake and park to be used in common by said owners and other citizens. But in the event that said land shall be sold in obedience to the laws of Florida your petitioners pray that the said owners of the land lying adjacent to said lake shall have a preference over all other persons in the purchase of the same and that you give to said land owners such time as may be reasonable in which to pay the purchase money or a large portion thereof, and your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

R. G. & L. J. Johnson.
J. A. Anders.
S. B. Bell.
R. E. Lester by S. S. Thompson.
A. A. Lester by W. H. Lester.
R. J. Bannerman.
T. E. Blackshear.
Est. of E. H. Smith. By E. M. Smith Agt.
N. W. Eppes.
Jno. Bradford.
R. F. Bradford.
A. M. Manning, Raines Place.
H. S. Elliott, Cotten Estate.
W. R. Wilson."

The Board decided that in selling said land preference should be given to the owners of the lands adjacent to the lake. Then the following bids were opened, one from C. P. Davis of Leon County as follows:

"To the Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund, Tallahassee.

"Gentlemen:—I herewith submit my bid for the purchase of Lake Iamonia. I offer the following bid: Seventy-five cents per acre for the whole tract, and if there is any bid over the above amount, then 2½c per acre more than the highest bidder for the entire tract.

"Terms of payment to be as easy as the Board can give, but I may be able to pay all cash at the time deed is delivered.

"May 5th, 1892

"C. P. DAVIS."

One from C. C. Harris of Decatur, Ala., as follows:

"June 20th, 1892.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming,
"Governor & President I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Sir:—I have the honor to make the following bid for the lands originally covered by the waters of Lake Iamonia, namely:

One dollar per acre payable as follows: $500 in cash and one half of the remainder payable, 25th December A. D. 1893, and balance twelve months thereafter with eight per cent interest on deferred payments from date.

"Respectfully,
"C. C. HARRIS,
"Prest. First National Bank.
Decatur, Alabama."

And one from the citizens living on the lake who agree to pay one dollar per acre, $600.00 cash down, and to pay the balance in five equal annual installments, deeds to be issued as the citizens living on the lake aforesaid might elect to issue until the land was paid for, which said offer was accepted.

Mr. J. E. Tucker, Land Commissioner of the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway Company, asked that the Board of Trustees relinquish the claim of the State to the following described lands:

"Description of Land parts of selections	Sec.	T.	R.	Contents. acres hundredths
N½ of NW¼	19	10	25	79.41
SW¼ of NW¼	19	10	25	39.70
SE¼ of NW¼	19	10	25	39.70
NE¼ of NE¼	19	10	25	39.71
NW¼ of NE¼	19	10	25	39.70
SW¼ of NE¼	19	10	25	39.70
NW¼ of SE¼	19	10	25	39.71
NE¼ of SW¼	19	10	25	39.70
W½ of SW¼	19	10	25	79.41
NE¼ of NE¼	17	17	25	40.13
SE¼ of NE¼	9	15	24	40.08
Total				516.95"

Which lay within fifteen miles of the line of the Florida Central and Peninsular R. R. and had been withdrawn from sale by the United States for the benefit of said Railway under the provisions of the Act of Congress of May 17th, 1856, but which has been selected by agents of the State of Florida as coming within the provisions of the swamp land act of September 28th, 1850, and said selections had been rejected.

Therefore as it appeared that said above described land has already been sold by said Florida Central and Peninsular Railway Co. to actual settlers and are now occupied by them, in order to quiet the titles of such settlers, the Salesman was directed to prepare a relinquishment to the United States of the State's claim to the lands for the Board to sign.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 1, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Hon. L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture, proceed to Washington to visit the Land Department in the interest of this Board as representative of the State of Florida in the matter of her claim for lands under the Act of September 28th, 1850.

The following report of the State Engineer was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., June 24th, 1892.

"To the Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.

"Sirs:—In accordance with your instructions I have examined the Dunnellon Extension of the South Florida Railroad and find the same well constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Improvement Act and modifications thereto allowed

"The main line of the extension which is 20 58-100 miles in length is laid with 60 lb. rail except the first 1200 feet near Pemberton which is laid with 50 lb. rail. The side tracks and spurs 1 82-100 miles are laid mainly with 40 and 50 lb. rail. The road is well surfaced, is in first class running order, with trains running regularly. Good depots and station houses all complete.

"Respectfully submitted,

"JNO. BRADFORD,

"State Engr."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 10, 1892.

Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor presented some papers from Robert M. Chafer of Kissimmee, Fla., relative to $45.35, which had been deposited with P. W. White, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, during the year 1883 to purchase a certain tract of land, and it appearing that said money had never been used to purchase the land, and had been turned over by P. W. White to C. L. Mitchell and should have been returned to Mrs. Chafer.

Whereupon it was ordered that the Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund pay to Mrs. Prudence Chafer the sum of $45.35 when she sends up the proper receipt for it.

The Salesman was directed to notify Dr. C. L. Mitchell that the Trustees had returned this money to Mrs. Chafer and to ask to refund it to the Treasurer.

The following bills were ordered paid:

Weekly Tallahasseean, for publishing notice of land sale five dollars, $5.00.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., for binding reports, $1.00.

Post Master for postage for State Land Office, one hundred and fifty-four and 99-100 dollars, $154.99.

Da Costa Printing and Publishing House, for printing for Land Office, twenty-two and 50-100 dollars, $22.50.

The Floridian Printing Company for printing for Land Office, thirty-six and 30-100 dollars, $36.30.

L. B. Wombwell, Salesman, for sundry office expenses, thirty-eight and 36-100 dollars.

L. B. Wombwell, Salesman, expenses trip to Washington on land business, $137.75 and freight on books $4.65 and telegrams $1.96 making a total of one hundred and forty-four and 35-100 dollars, $144.35.

Jno. Bradford for inspecting Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf; Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Gulf, and Dunnellon extension South Florida Railroads, three hundred dollars, $300.

S. C. Tucker, for services in preparing lists of lands in United States Land Office, and other clerical work for use of State Land Office, four hundred and seventy-eight dollars, $478.00.

H. T. Blocker for services in copying records in State Land Office into books for permanent use, for the preservation of the land records, three hundred and fifty dollars, $350.00.

The following purchases and payments were reported by the Treasurer and approved:

W. O. Ames, Agent, for one Columbia County Bond No. 183 and interest, one hundred and three dollars.

First National Bank of Tallahassee, for four Madison County Bonds Nos. 15, 17, 18 and 68 of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, two thousand dollars, $2,000.00.

Geo. Lewis for 10 Jefferson County bonds No. 9, 79, 80, 90, 92, 94, 96, 104, 111 and 112 of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, and four (4) Jefferson County bonds No. 121, 152, 232 and 233 of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, making a total of five thousand four hundred dollars, $5,400,00.

Geo. W. Saxon for 32 coupons due March 1st, 1892, and September 1st, 1891, from F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds No. 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 92, 221, 232, 233, 235, 328, 329, 330, 434 and 435 Eleven hundred and twenty dollars, $1,120.00.

First National Bank of Tallahassee for 5 coupons due March, 1892, from F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds No. 139, 140, 141, 142, and 143, one hundred and seventy-five dollars, $175.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 18, 1892.

The Board met in Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following communication was presented to the Board by the Governor and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"7-11-92.

"Gov. F. P. Fleming, President &
"Hon. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Gentlemen:—

"On the first Monday in May A. D. 1891, all the property of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Company including its rights to receive deeds from the State of Florida, through you, to lands granted by the State to it under the Act incorporating it, was sold under a foreclosure sale in the United States Circuit Court, for the Northern District of Florida, and was purchased by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, and a deed executed in accordance therewith by the Master on June 12th, 1891, and such property has since that time been vested in the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company. You will please, therefore, in the future make no deeds to the Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad Company for such lands, but make them to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company.

"Yours very truly,
"W. D. CHIPLEY,
"V. Pres. P. & A. R. R. Co."

The Secretary of the Board was instructed to request Col. W. D. Chipley to send a certificate from the Clerk of the Circuit Court where the deed was recorded, setting forth that portion of the deed which conveys the right to lands from the Pensacola and Atlantic to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company.

A letter from S. I. Wailes, asking for extension of contract *in re* securing patents for land from General Land Office was read, and the Secretary was directed to write Mr. Wailes that as the administration would change in January next it is deemed best not to consider such a question at this late date, but to leave the matter for the new Board.

A communication from Mr. Joe. B. Wilson setting forth a private land transaction between him and Dr. C. L. Mitchell, in which he states that Dr. Mitchell agreed

to enter eighty acres of land for him and take forty acres in payment thereof was read, and the Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Wilson that the Trustees never received any money for or on account of such proposed entry, and that as the land described by him, had been sold and title thereto parted with by State, the Trustees could not now sell him the land, nor aid in any way as they do not recognize any obligation to him in the premises.

The following articles of agreement were presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Articles of agreement entered into this the 6th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two, between Francis P Fleming, Governor of the State of Florida, William D. Bloxham, Comptroller, Eduardo J. Triay, Treasurer, Wm. B. Lamar, Attorney General, and Lucius B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida, and, by virtue of their said offices, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, of the first part, and Stephen B. Bell, John A. Anders, Andrew M. Manning and Richard G. Johnson, of the county of Leon and State of Florida, and Mrs. Elizabeth F. Smith, Richard R. Mitchell and Robert E. Lester, of the county of Thomas and State of Georgia, parties of the second part, Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, as such trustees, in consideration of the payments of one dollar ($1.00) per acre for the lands hereinafter described, by the said parties of the second part, of the sums, and at the times hereinafter stated, hereby agree, for themselves and their successors, to sell and convey by good and sufficient deeds, conveyances and assurances to the said parties of the second part, their associates, heirs and assigns, or to such person or persons as may be designated by the said parties of the second part an absolute indefeasible estate, in fee simple, all those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land situate, lying and being situate in the county of Leon and State of Florida, described as follows, to-wit:

"The unsurveyed part of sections twenty-five (25), thirty-five (35) and thirty-six (36), in Township Three (3) North of Range One (1) West, containing an estimated area five hundred and sixty-nine (569) acres and

the unsurveyed parts of Sections thirteen (13), nineteen (19), twenty (20), twenty-one (21), twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23), twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25), twenty-six (26), twenty-seven, (27), twenty-eight (28), twenty-nine (29), thirty (30), thirty-one (31), thirty-two (32), thirty-three (33), thirty-four (34) and thirty-six (36) of Tonwship Three (3) North of Range One (1) East containing an estimated area of five thousand and fifty-seven (5057) acres and containing in the aggregate five thousand six hundred and twenty-six (5626) acres.

"The parties of the second part in consideration of such conveyances agree with the parties of the first part to pay therefor the sum of one dollar ($1.00) per acre as follows, to-wit:

"Six hundred and twenty-five dollars ($625.00) cash on the date hereof, one thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1894, one thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1895, one thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1896, one thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1897, and one thousand dollars on the first day of January A. D. 1898.

"Upon the payment by the said parties of the second part and their associates of the sum of one dollar per acre for the said lands the parties of the first part will execute and deliver deeds to said lands in accordance with the terms above set forth.

"Executed this sixth day of October A. D. eighteen hundred and ninety-two.

"FRANCIS P. FLEMING. (L. S.)
Governor.

W. D. BLOXHAM. (L. S.)
Comptroller.

E. J. TRIAY. (L. S.)
Treasurer.

W. B. LAMAR. (L. S.)
Attorney General.

L. B. Wombwell. (L. S.)
Commissioner of Agriculture.

Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of
L. A. PERKINS.
JOHN T. COSTA.
Witnesses for Trustees of the
Internal Improvement Fund.

ELIZABETH F. SMITH. (L. S.)
RICHARD R. MITCHELL. (L. S.)
R. E. LESTER. (L. S.)
J. A. ANDERS. (L. S.)
STEPHEN B. BELL. (L. S.)
ANDREW M. MANNING. (L. S.)
R. G. JOHNSON. (L. S.)"

Witnesses for
B. H. WRIGHT.
C. M. SMITH.
W. F. ROBERTSON.
D. A. DIXON.

Bill of A. J. Quimby for certified copy of record *in re* Gleason vs. Trustees, for Five 10-100 dollars ordered paid.

The following expenditures by the Treasurer were approved:

First National Bank of Tallahassee for Two (2) Leon County bonds Nos. 118 and 133 with interest to September 1st, 1892, One thousand and thirty-five dollars, ($1,035.00).

Thomas P. Denham, Cashier, for four coupons from Flordida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad bonds No. 115 and 116, due March and September, 1892, one hundred and forty dollars ($140.00).

First National Bank of Tallahassee for five coupons from Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad bonds Nos. 139 to 143, inclusive, due September 1st, 1892, one hundred and seventy five dollars ($175.00).

The following bills were ordered paid:

Post Master, for stamps, Salesman's office, forty 62-100 dollars.

S. C. Tucker, for services in transcribing records in U. S. Land Office for use of Salesman for months of July, August and September, 1892, two hundred and twenty-five dollars.

DeSoto Abstract Company for copy of list of lands reserved by I. I. Fund for Florida Southern Railway, Four dollars, ($4.00).

Southern Express Company for express from Gainesville on Tract Books for Land Office One 10-100 dollars ($1.10.)

Hon. P. W. White, Attorney, for part of fee *in re* W. H. Gleason vs. Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida in Dade County Circuit Court Fifty Dollars ($50.00)

Southern Express Company, express charges for Treasurer's office, one 75-100 dollars ($1.75).

H. T. Blocker for services in transcribing records in Land Office from August 11th to September 1st, 1892, Thirty-three 35-100 dollars ($33.35.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 7, 1892.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. Dexter Hunter, representing the Western Railway of Florida, appeared before the Board and requested that deeds be given him for as much land as possible under the land grant to the said Western Railway Company. Whereupon, it was ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds to Mr. Dexter Hunter for such lands as he may be entitled to in accordance with the resolution of the Trustees of July 1st, 1890.

The Trustees ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds for Fifty three thousand three hundred and seventy-six and 79-100 acres of land to Elverton R. Chapman, under the grant to the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic R. R. Co. in accordance with the resolution of the Board of May 17th, 1892.

The following letter from Col. W. D. Chipley in reference to certain lands reserved for the Florida Midland and Georgia R. R. Co. was read and ordered filed with the Secretary:

"11-29-92.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming.
"Pres. & Mems. of Board,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Gentlemen:—

"My attention has been called to Chapter 3911, Laws of '89. This law cannot affect our claim to the lands granted the Ga. & Midland R. R. Co. The answer to any such suggestion is this. We do not claim the lands because that Railroad Company has forfeited them, but because they were in the P. & A. before the grant to that railroad was made, and that therefore neither the act making the grant or the subsequent act of 1889 could have any effect upon our rights.

"Yours truly,
"LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE R. R. CO. by
"W. D. CHIPLEY.
"G. L. C."

Mr. George Lewis, of Tallahassee, Fla., as a Trustee of Leon County Bonds, filed the following communication with the Trustees, which was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Nov. 5th, 1892.

"Dear Sir:—

"As Trustee Leon County Bonds and Agent for the County, I have to request that you will take the necessary steps to have such amounts of stumpage and other receipts from lands, set aside by the Legislature for 'Relief of Bonded Counties', audited to the fund, so that this County may receive its share.

"Respectfully Yrs.,
"GEO. LEWIS,
Trustee, etc."

"To His Excellency,
"Gov. F. P. Fleming,
"Pres. Bd. Int. Imp. of Florida.

Whereupon the Treasurer was ordered to get up the data requested by Mr. Lewis.

The Salesman read the petition of Hon. D. W. Gwynn, Attorney for R. E. Lester and associates in reference to surveying the Lake Iamonia lands.

The petition is as follows:

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Your petitioners, R. E. Lester, A. M. Manning, J. A. Anders and others, comprising the Lake Iamonia Co., respectfully represent that said Company is unable to distinguish its line or to ascertain its boundary from any marks or visible boundary lines, and that an actual survey of the lands of the Lake is absolutely necessary to determine the limit of the purchase, and inasmuch as your petitioners contracted to pay a very full value for the lands of said Lake, they think it reasonable and proper that your Honorable Board should have said lands properly surveyed and marked, and they respectfully pray that the same shall be done without any cost to your said petitioners, and they will ever pday, etc.

"LAKE IAMONIA COMPANY.
"By its Attorney,
"D. W. GWYNN."

The Board directed the Salesman to notify Judge Gwynn and the parties who had purchased the Iamonia land that the Board could not have the land surveyed; that if it was done in this instance, every person or corporation to whom unsurveyed lands were conveyed would expect the same thing. It would be a bad precedent to establish and in the end be very expensive to the State.

The Salesman read a letter from Hon. W. H. Edwards in reference to changing an entry made by one Hardy Byrd to certain lands in Section 14 Township 5 South Range 20 East. The Salesman was directed to correspond with Mr. Edwards in reference to the land and to adjust the matter if the land was not emcumbered by sale or mortgage since Byrd made the entry.

The Governor presented a letter from one Arthur J. Albritton asking that he be refunded $68.96, amount he had paid for N½ of Lot 7, Section 1, Township 14, S. Range 23, E., February 9th, 1884, and which was con-

veyed to said Albritton by deed No. 12,565, upon the ground that said land had been previously conveyed to H. L. Hart, of Palatka, Fla., by deed No. 5350, September, 1868. The Salesman having examined the records of the State Land Office reported the facts to be as stated by Albritton; whereupon, it was ordered that the Treasurer of the I. I. Fund refund said Arthur J. Albritton the sum of $68.90 upon the receipt of a quit claim deed for the land from Albritton to the State of Florida and a certificate of the Clerk of the Court of Marion County that Albritton had not mortgaged or otherwise emcumbered it.

The Salesman presented the following bills which were ordered paid:

H. Drew & Bro. for binding and mounting forty three volumes of maps, expressage on same and costs, two hundred and nine and 55-100 dollars ($209.55.)

S. C. Tucker for work in U. S. Land Office for October and November, one hundred and fifty dollars ($150.00).

The following certificate was presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"State of Florida. }
"Escambia County. }

"I, John de la Rua, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Escambia County, Fla., do hereby certify that the deed of Edward T. Hunt, Master Commissioner in the foreclosure sale of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company vs. the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Co. determined in the Circuit Court of the United States in and for the Northern District of Florida at Pensacola, as the said deed remains of record in my office contains the following general description of property conveyed, towit:

'All the Railroad of the Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad Company, located and constructed from Pensacola, in the State of Florida, to a junction with the railroad formerly known as the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad in said State, and upon all the other property of the Company used in connection therewith as part thereof, and all and singular its rights, franchises, exemptions and privileges pertaining to said line of railroad, and the road bed, tracks, right of way, culverts,

bridges, trestles, fences, depots, station houses, machine shops and other buildings, and the several lots, pieces and parcels of land or ground on which the same are erected, forming part of said railroad, and also all engines, locomotives and tenders, passenger, baggage, freight or other cars, and all other rolling stock, machinery, tools, fuel and materials now used or acquired in the constructing, operating, repairing, or replacing of the said railroad or any part thereof; and also all other lands of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Company, to wit, all the lands donated or granted to the Company under and by virtue of certain acts of the Congress of the United States of America and of the Legislature of the State of Florida, amounting to about four million acres or thereabouts, including the lands that have been located, and titles to which have been secured and that are now unsold, lying in the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Jackson, Calhoun, Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, LaFayette, and Hamilton or elsewhere, amounting in the aggregate to about one million eight hundred and sixty thousand acres, more or less; and which are particularly described and set forth in the following schedules showing the County, Townships, Section and Ranges in which the same are respectively situated, and the number of acres, the latter being, however, stated approximately:

(List Omitted.)

"In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal official, this 29th day of November, A. D. 1892.

"JOHN DE LA RUA.
"Clerk Ct. Ct. Escambia Co., Fla."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 15, 1892.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

J. O. Fries, representing the Apopka Canal Coompany, appeared before the Board in reference to the purchase of certain unsurveyed lands on Lake Apopka described as follows:

	Sec.	T.	R.	Acres.
Unsurveyed part in S. W. corner	2	21	27	4.00
Unsurveyed part in South side	3	"	"	173.50
Fractional part	8	"	"	206.82
Fractional part	9	"	"	234.64
Fractional part	10	"	"	430.40
Unsurveyed part	11	"	"	494.30
Unsurveyed part	12	"	"	202.00
All	13	"	"	640.00
Fractional part	14	"	"	636.93
Fractional part	15	"	"	64.11
Fractional part	23	"	"	185.30
Fractional part	24	"	"	482.31
Fractional part	25	"	"	1.34
Unsurveyed part	7	21	28	3.65
Unsurveyed part	18	"	"	187.32
Unsurveyed part	19	"	"	171.84
Unsurveyed part (fractional)	30	"	"	32.50

The Apopka Canal Company having paid two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) on the purchase of the same March 31st, 1891, now offered to pay the balance of two thousand one hundred and fifty and 96-100 dollars ($2,150.96) which is at the rate of one dollar per acre.

These lands are unsurveyed and not yet patented to the State, but as the said Apopka Canal Company is willing to take deeds from the State for the said lands, on motion the proposition was accepted and the Salesman directed to make the deeds for the above described lands to said Apopka Canal Company.

F. T. Myers, Esq., as Attorney for Chas. W. Knapp, requested that the Board refund to said Knapp seventy-

Dollars ($72.00) for himself and seventy-two dollars ($72.00) which Knapp had advanced for one W. D. Cox, being money deposited with C. L. Mitchell, former Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, to purchase certain land in Section 19, Township 27, S. R. 26 E. After reading certain letters in reference to the claim of said Chas. W. Knapp the Salesman was directed to correspond with Hon. C. L. Michell in reference to said claims and request such information as would enable the Trustees to make a speedy adjustment of Knapp's claim.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 21, 1892.

The Board met at the residence of Gov. W. D. Bloxham.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. John A. Henderson as Attorney and Col. Jas. M. Hammer, Chief Engineer of the Atlantic, Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, appeared before the Board and presented a letter from Mr. Hamilton Disston, President of said Company, and a statement of expenditures on account of contract with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund from July 31st, 1888, to July 31st, 1892, and statement of value of Dredging Plant, July 1st, 1888, on commencing work under contract with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, which are in the words and figures following:

"Philadelphia. Pa., December 17th, 18[illegible]

"Hon. Francis P. Fleming,
"President Trustees I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir:—

"We herewith present statement of the Expendi[illegible] of this Company for the four years ending July 31st, 1892, under contract with your Board which we desire shall be examined and approved.

"This expenditure is based on the actual value of the Dredging Plant July 1st, 1888, and we have taken credit for cost of repairs and construction since that date. On completion of the contract, the dredging Plant will be revalued, and any difference in value of the then existing Plant over that when work was commenced will be adjusted.

"The question of what compensation shall be allowed us for the use of the Dredging Plant of the value of $58,517.96 we leave for further consideration, for we think your Board will not consider that simply returning a Plant at the end of seven years of equal value would be any recompense for the use of the money invested in such Plant.

"Yours Respectfully,
"HAMILTON DISSTON, President."

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES ON ACCOUNT CONTRACT WITH THE BOARD OF I. I. FUND FROM JULY 1, 1888, TO JULY 31, 1892.

Expenditures for construction and maintenance of Dredges, Tenders, Lighters Pontoons and Bridges.	July 1, 1888. to July 31, 1889	Aug. 1, 1889, to July 31, 1890.	Aug 1, 1890. to July 31, 1891	Aug. 1, 1891, to July 31, 1892	Total
Construction	$ 2,206 21	$45,304 55	$ 9,072 50	$ 426 29	$57,009 55
Repairs	2,606 25	1,737 04	5,327 65	5,257 63	14,928 57
Labor	9,486 23	10,183 71	14,458 87	14,155 64	48,284 45
Operating Expenses. Wood, Provisions, Supplies, &c	6,962 98	7,846 62	7,364 68	8,810 70	30,984 98
Lighters, Pontoons and Bridges	140 40	1,827 59	500 00	107 23	2,575 22
Ship Yards at Kissimmee and Lake Hart.					
Construction	15 00	696 12	.....	.....	711 12
Repairs	67 49	126 38	166 02	253 12	613 01
Labor	742 02	953 68	1,356 67	2,128 36	5,171 61
Operating Expenses	18 67	157 83	397 20	476 54	1,050 33
Jetties South Port Canal	270 88	314 73	.....	.....	585 61
Drainage Survey	278 61	2,674 82	1,169 71	3,879 61	8,502 75
Office Expenses	781 97	1,583 41	648 33	329 81	3,343 52
Salary Chief Engineer	2,405 11	3,566 60	2,624 94	4,464 90	13,061 55
Insurance on Dredges and Ship Yards	375 00	838 70	414 00	751 10	2,378 80
Taxes on Dredges and Ship Yards	61 70	423 06	225 54	189 60	899 90
General Expense	.....	534 15	554 04	378 25	1,466 44
Total	$26,409 40	$78,768 99	$44,780 24	$41,608 78	$191,567 41
Amount agreed upon as expended prior to July 1st, 1888					55,000 00
Total					$246,567 41

Note:—By resolution of Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of May 1st, 1889, it was ordered that any deficiency in amount agreed upon to be expended in 1888-1889 could be made up in the following year.

Value of Dredging Plant July 1st, 1888, on commencing work under contract with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

Items.	Original Cost.	Depreciation.	Amount	Value July 1st, 1888.
Dredge No. 1.	$ 13,592.08	30 pr ct.	$ 4,077.62	$ 9,514.46
Dredge No. 2.	17,481.44	30 pr ct.	5,244.43	12,237.01
Dredge No. 3.	26,535.31	30 pr ct.	6,633.82	19,901.49
Snag Boat No. 4	5,250.00	30 pr ct.	1,575.00	3,675.00
Steamer Rosalie	3,575.00	20 pr ct.	715.00	2,860.00
Steamer Mamie.	970.00			970.00
Six barges ...	2,700.00	20 pr ct.	540.00	2,160.00
Ship Yard, Wharf, Office, Shops, Fencing	3,100.00			3,100.00
Tools, Lathes, Forges, Drills, etc.	2,100.00			2,100.00
Ship Yard & Lot	2,000.00			2,000.00
	$77,303.83		$18,785.87	$58,517.96

After discussing all the matters pertaining to said drainage contract it was resolved that

Said accounts will be examined by an Engineer of this Board in accordance with the 4th clause of the agreement entered into by said Drainage Company with the Board of Trustees August 1st, 1888, as to the economy and bona fides of the expenditures set forth therein and that upon the report of such engineer that said expenditures were made economically and in good faith in the work of such drainage under the contracts made with the Board, then the said Company will be entitled to have its bond surrendered and to receive a conveyance of lands within its reserve at the rate of one acre for each twenty-five cents of such expenditure over and above the sum of seventy thousand dollars expended to make up the sum due for lands conveyed prior to the contract of August 1st, 1888.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 28, 1892.

The Board met at the residence of Gov. W. D. Bloxham.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Tray, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman presented the following communication from Col. John A. Henderson, in regard to releasing certain lands now reserved for the Atlantic Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and taking an equal area elsewhere. The proposition is as follows:

"Tallahassee, Dec. 22d, 1892.

"Hon. F. P. Fleming,
"Pres. Board of I. I.

"Dear Sir:—

"The A. & G. C. & O. L. Co. hereby applies for leave of the board to cover with their reservation under contract with your board for purchase, etc., odd sections in Twp. 47, S. of R. 40 E., Twp. 48, S. of R. 41, E., Twp. 49, S. of R. 41, E. The company making a relinquishment of like acreage from its present reservation.

"For the Company
"ATLANTIC & GULF CANAL & OKEECHOBEE LAND COMPANY.
"by JOHN A. HENDERSON,
"Atty."

Whereupon it was Resolved that the exchange as requested be allowed.

The Salesman presented a proposition from Hon. J. V. Harris as to the purchase of certain lands to be drained and reclaimed, and to be devoted to the cultiva-

tion of Sanseviera and other tropical plants, etc. After describing Dr. Harris' proposition, the Salesman was directed to inform Dr. Harris that the Board would sell him two or four thousand acres of land in the locality mentioned for the purposes expressed at the rate of fifty cents per acre provided that he would give bond to expend fifty cents an acre more for reclamation and drainage.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

F. P FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 31, 1892.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: F. P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
E. J. Triay, Treeasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor read a letter from Mr. J. E. Ingraham, one of the Trustees of the Seminole Indians, appointed under a Joint Resolution of the Legislature of Florida, approved June 8th, 1891, transmitting the report of the proceedings of said Trustees at a meeting held at Miami, Florida, November 8th, 1892, which is as follows:

"Miami, Dade Co., Fla., November 8th, 1892.

"At a meeting of the Trustees of the Seminole Indians, under the provisions of a joint resolution of the Legislature of the State of Florida, approved June 8th, 1891, was held at Miami this date. There being present Mr. J. E. Ingraham and Mr. G. Niles; absent, Mr. F. A. Hendry. Mr. J. E. Ingraham was elected Chairman; Mr. F. A. Hendry, Secretary. Mr. Niles acting as Secretary of this meeting, Mr. Hendry voting by letter.

"After discussion it was resolved:

"1st. That the immediate establishment of a Primary School, for the education of the Indians, at or near

Miami, is essential. Many of the young Indians expressing themselves as desirous of being taught to read, write and cipher.

2nd. That effort be made to stop the sale of Cider (so-called) and other beverages containing alcohol to the Indians, and that the Governor be requested to require rigid enforcement of the laws on the subject.

3rd. That the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of this State, be requested to require of Homesteaders for five (5) years next ensuing, to make oath that no Indian improvements, houses, homes or fields used or occupied by the Indians as such, are covered by their Homestead entries, and to refuse entries to homesteaders refusing to make such oath.

4th. That effort be continued toward settling the Indians on land occupied by them in severalty or on a reservation.

5th. That it is the opinion of the Trustees that a tract of 1,666 2-3 acres be reserved for a reservation for the Cow Creek Indians near Ft. Pierce, Fla.; that a similar acreage be set aside for the use of the Big Cypress Indians near the Big Cypress on the western part of the State, and a similar area for the Miami Indians on or near the Miami River; further, that the Governor be requested to reserve from any sale as a part of these reservations for the Indians under the act named, the following described lands: The Indian settlement and lands contiguous thereto in the unsurveyed lands lying in Range 41 E. west of the township 50 and 51, and also parts of Sections 1 & 2 T. 52, S. R. 40 E. about 600 acres of land, more or less; also, Little Tiger's Town in the north ½ of NE¼ of Sec. 23, T. 52, S. R. 41, E., also Abiaka's Town in the N½ of N½ of Sec. 2, Tp. 52, S. R. 41 E., also the S½ of the SW¼ of Sec. 27, T 52. S. R. 41 E.; also Lot 5 of Sec. 16, T. 50, S. R. 41, E., also E½ of the SE¼ of Sec. 9, T. 52, S. R. 42, E., on Snake Creek; also Billy Hearney's Town in the Everglades near the Miami River in unsurveyed lands, west of township 52, Range 40 or 41, being about 100 acres of land and water.

6th. That the Governor be requested to negotiate for the exchange of lands deeded by the State to Corporations now occupied by Indian villages.

"7th. That the Secretary of the Interior be requested to send to Mr. G. Niles, Lemon City, Fla. (Matto, [illegible]) and to Mr. F. A. Hendry, Ft. Thompson, Fla., seed, such as Tomatoes, Melons, Cabbages, Corn, Beans, Tobacco, etc., etc., for distribution among the Indians.

"8th. That Bishop Weed of Florida be invited to send a missionary to the Indians, whose headquarters should be near Miami.

"Meeting adjourned subject to a call of the chairman.

"GARIBALDI NILES,
"Acting Secretary."

The Treasurer reported that he paid to Geo. W. [illegible] & Co. Five hundred and sixty dollars for coupons due September 1st, 1892, from Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central Railroad bonds Nos. 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 92, 231, 232, 233, 235, 328, 329, 330, 434 and 435, which was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

F. P. FLEMING,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 2d, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Francis P. Fleming, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
E. J. Triay, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Cecil G. Butt, of Orlando, representing the purchasers of the land in Townships Thirty (30), Thirty-one (31) and Thirty-two (32), South of Range Thirty-seven (37) East—known as the Sebastian Saw Grass Tract—appeared before the Board and asked for an extension of the payment on said land, due January 1st, 1893, until July 1st, 1893, and promising for himself and associates to pay interest at the rate of six per cent. per

annum on the amount due until paid. On motion, the offer was accepted and the extension of time made as requested.

The communication and resolutions from the Trustees of the Seminole Indians which were presented at a meeting of the Board held on the 31st ultimo, were taken up and after due consideration the Salesman was directed to furnish a copy of the resolutions of the Indian Trustees, as they appear in the minutes of the Board of December 31st, 1892, to Bishop Weed, the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and to the Secretary of the Interior, and to request the latter so far as lay in his power to withhold from homestead, preemption or cash entry any of the land mentioned in the resolutions of the Trustees of the Seminole Indians as to which the title is still in the United States. The Salesman was further directed to request the persons and corporations owning land within the tracts selected for the Seminole Indians by their Trustees to re-convey the same to the State and to inform them that other lands would be given in lieu thereof by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. The Salesman was also directed to withhold from sale any vacant State land which is now occupied by the Seminole Indians.

It was ordered that Mr. J. E. Ingraham be advised of the action of the Board in relation to the reservation of land for the Seminole Indians.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. F. P. FLEMING, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 15, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that an apportionment had been made of the funds arising from the sale of lands under the Act of 1883, Chapter 3474, Laws of Florida, entitled "An Act for the relief of Jacksonville and the counties of Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Suwannee, Madison, Jefferson and Leon," and he was instructed to advertise for bids so that the Trustees could purchase bonds, with the funds so apportioned, in accordance with Section 4 of said Act.

The Treasurer was also directed to send a special notice to the Mayor of Jacksonville and ask him whether or not there are any of the bonds of said City covered by the Act of 1883, now outstanding.

The following bills were ordered paid:

A. F. Quimby, Clerk Circuit Court of Dade County, for certified copy of bill in the case of Gleason vs. Trustees I. I. Fund *et. al.* Five 10-100 dollars.

H. Reed, Postmaster, for postage and box rent for Salesman's Office, Six Dollars.

J. N. Bradshaw, Clerk Circuit Court of Orange County, for recording deeds of release of lands erroneously conveyed, One 80-100 Dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 24, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
C. B. Collins State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. P. W. White, Attorney for the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, appeared before the Board and called attention to an error in a conveyance recently made to E. R. Chapman. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, On the 17th day of May, 1892, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, ordered the Salesman "to prepare a list of lands already patented to the State as inuring to the State under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, which were not within the six or twenty mile limit of some land grant railroad for submission to the Trustees as to whether the said lands shall be conveyed to said Chapman in accordance with" a petition presented to the Board on that day.

And Whereas, On the 7th day of December, 1892, "the Trustees ordered that the Salesman prepare deeds for Fifty-three thousand three hundred and seventy-six and seventy-nine one hundredths acres of land to Elverton R. Chapman, under the grant to the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad Company, in accordance with the resolution of the Board of May 17th, 1892."

And Whereas, Said conveyance was executed by the Trustees on the 2d day of January, 1893, under the belief that said conveyance contained only such lands as were intended by the resolution of May 17th, 1892, to be conveyed;

And Whereas, It has been discovered that certain lands were included in said conveyance, through error in the preparation thereof, that were within the reserve of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and not intended to be conveyed to said Elverton R. Chapman, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Salesman be and he is hereby directed to request Mr. Elverton R. Chapman to re-convey the lands so erroneously conveyed to him.

In order to stimulate the building of a railroad through the counties of Taylor and Lafayette, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the swamp lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying within the counties of Taylor and Lafayette be and the same are hereby reserved from sale, except to actual settlers, for the benefit of the first railroad that shall be constructed through said counties, subject to the further order of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 2, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A proposition from Eugene C. Gordon, of Athens, Ala., to purchase Orange Lake, was presented to the Board, and after due consideration it was

Resolved, That propositions to purchase Orange Lake will not be considered by the Board until the lands covered by said Lake are patented to the State and the consent of the land owners adjoining said lake shall have been obtained.

A communication was presented from J. W. Denny, of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, asking that said Company be allowed certain lands, or compensation therefor, and it was Resolved, that the Board decline to grant the request of Mr. Denny.

A claim for interest on past due bonds, issued by the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company, was presented on behalf of Dr. A. B. Hawkins, and it appearing that all the coupons had been detached from said bonds and duly paid and that the interest claimed was for a period of six months after the maturity of the bonds, *i. e.* from September 1st, 1892, to March 1st, 1893, it was decided to defer action thereon until the matter could be fully investigated.

The Secretary was directed to telegraph Hon. C. M. Cooper that the Board would meet on Saturday next and urge him to be present for consultation.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 6, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:
Floridian Printing Company, for printing and binding reports of Secretary and Treasurer, eighty-two 95-100 dollars, and for publishing notice "Bonds Wanted," two dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.
H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 26, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.

Madison McKinney, Esq., of Steinhatchie, Florida, was duly elected Timber Agent from the boundary line between LaFayette and Taylor counties, to the St. Marks River in Wakulla county and the Secretary of the Board was directed to notify him of his election.

The payment of the following bills, on the dates named by the Treasurer of the Board was approved: March 3d, 1893, S. C. Tucker, for services for State Land Office for January and twenty-two days in February 1893, one hundred and thirty dollars, and March 6th, 1893, S. C. Tucker, for his services in same office for December 1892, seventy-five dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.
H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 15, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, will not sign any deeds for lands belonging to said fund that purport to be sold for cash until the Treasurer of the fund certifies that the money is in his hands.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

The Board then adjourned.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 24, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

President: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., May 19th, 1893.

"To Hon. Board Internal Improvement Fund, Trustees,

"Gentlemen:

"We, the undersigned, respectfully request of your Honorable Board, that you extend the time for payment of the "Miccosukee Lake Tract," purchased by us Jany. 1st, 1892, and payable July 1st, 1893, to the 1st of July A. D. 1894. We have been disappointed in several respects. First, After a very long and expensive survey, we found that a much larger sum of money was needed to properly drain the property, than we had calculated upon. One of our partners and the most important one

too, has been ill nearly a year and thus crippled us very seriously. Then the stress of finances all over the country has prevented us from making our financial arrangements. We are now carefully experimenting on the drainage subject, and feel confident that by the end of the year, we will be prepared to pay the balance of the purchase money. This will be within the 5 years that the party demanded, who was our opponent in the bid in 1892; so that the State will not be out of its money any longer by allowing us this additional time, than it would have been had the other parties made the original deal. Besides, the information we have, and will have gained, by July 1st 1894, will be a handsome profit to the State in case we should make a final failure.

"Respectfully submitted, and begging a prompt compliance

"JAS A. MARVIN.
"LAWRENCE HAYNES.
"B. W. PARTRIDGE.
"W. G. DENHAM."

On motion it was ordered that the time for payinig for the lands covered by the waters of Lake Miccosukee be extended one year fro mthe 1st day of July, 1893.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 27, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. F. A. Hendry appeared before the Board and presented the following communication:

"To Your Ex. H. L. Mitchell,

"Ex-Officio President of the Board of Trustees of the "I. I. Fund,

"Dear Sir:—There are a few citizens of Lee county

who desire to enter upon and cultivate a tract of unsurveyed swamp and overflowed land, situated at or near Rita river, bordering Lake Okeechobee. Their object is to raise winter and early spring vegetables. I am personally acquainted with parties, and can vouch for the faithfulness of their application. We ask that Your Hon. Board authorize such occupation and industry guaranteeing to us a prior right to purchase and hold a tract of land, say not to exceed six hundred and forty acres. When such lands are surveyed and can be conveyed by Your Hon. Board, to be conveyed to your applicants. If you will kindly grant this request it will doubtless prove of great advantage in the way of showing the great value of those waste lands, and prove to be of great interest to the State. I submit herewith a brief resolution on the line of what we want, and trust that you may see proper to pass such a resolution.

"I have the honor to be, most respectfully,

"F. A. HENDRY."

After considering the request of Mr. Hendry the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That J. F. Menge and his associates be authorized to enter upon and occupy a tract of land fronting Lake Okeechobee on its southern shore at or near the mouth of what is known to be "Rita River" and that said J. F. Menge and his associates shall be authorized to stake off said land and give as full a description as possible of such land and file the same with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and said J. F. Menge and his associates shall have the right to occupy and to cultivate 160 acres of muck lands or any part thereof and that they shall have a prior right to purchase said 640 acres or any part thereof at the price now fixed by the Boaord for swamp and overflowed lands; *Provided,* That J. F. Menge and his associates shall continuously occupy said land or any part thereof from the 1st day of January, 1894, until such lands are in situation to be conveyed to such association.

Upon motion it was ordered that one thousand copies of the report of the Trustees on the Okeechobee Drainage operations which was presented to the Legislature on May 24th, 1893, be printed and that the Treasurer of

the Board be and he is hereby authorized to pay the sum of twenty-five dollars, to the Printer upon delivery of the one thousand copies in pamphlet form.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 28, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Cecil G. Butt appeared before the Board on behalf of himself and associates, and asked that the payment due July 1st under their contract of purchase, be extended to January 1st, 1894, at which time the full balance due under the contract would be paid, and on motion the time was so extended.

It appearing that fractional Sections four and five in Township fifty-five South of Range forty-two East, were erroneously conveyed by deed No. 14591, to Narcisse Bouchard upon the payment of one hundred and nine dollars, and that a re-conveyance of said land had been duly made and filed in the State Land Office, it is ordered that the sum of one hundred and nine dollars be refunded by the Treasurer of the Board to said Narcisse Bouchard.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 10, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was presented to the Board:

"To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"This is to certify, that five miles of the railroad, which the undersigned was authorized to build and acquire under the special act of the Legislature of the State of Florida, approved May 24th, 1893, have been completed and conveyed to the undersigned accordiing to the provisions of said act:

"And your Honorable body is respectfully requested to require the State Engineer or some other competent person to examine and inspect said five miles of completed railroad.

"GEO. TOMPSILL,
Chief Engineer of Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway.

"THOS. P. DENHAM,
Prest. of Atlantic, Suwannee River & Gulf Railway."

On motion it was ordered that when the plat of actual survey and details of construction are filed, H. S. Duval, Engineer, be requested to inspect the five miles of road as constructed and report thereon to the Board and that the Secretary so notify Mr. Duval.

The following communications were read and ordered spread on the minutes:

"Old Town, Fla., June 18, 1893.

"Trustees I. I. Board, Tallahassee.

"Dear Sirs: On account of failing health I hereby tender my resignation as agent of your Honorable body in Lafayette county in favor of Senator J. J. Johnson to

take effect immediately. Thanking you kindly for past favors, I am yours truly.

W. F. LUTHER."

"P. S. I send today to treasurer of Board all stumpage up to date."

"Old Town, Fla., July 3, 1893.

"Gov. H. L. Mitchell, Tallahassee, Fla.

"My Dear Gov.—Mr. W. F. Luther having resigned the position of Timber Agent of this county I take pleasure in recommending the Hon. J. J. Johnson as his successor to said position and truly hope the same will meet with your consideration and the consideration of the State Board of the I. I. Lands of Florida.

"Most respt. yours,

"T. P. CHAIRES, Chairman Dem Ex. Co. of Lafayette Co."

Upon motion Hon. J. J. Johnson was duly elected Timber Agent in place of W. F. Luther, resigned, and his bond was fixed at two thousand dollars. The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Johnson of his election and request him to furnish the required bond.

The Board also fixed the bond of Madison McKinley, Esqr., as Timber Agent, at one thousand doollars and the Secretary was instructed to so inform him.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased the following bonds:

Seven (7) Suwannee County bonds, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 16 to 22, inclusive, attached, for the sum of seven hundred dollars, $700.00.

Two (2) Bradford County Bonds, Nos. 79 & 80, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 24 to 40, inclusive, attached, for the sum of two hundred dollars, $200.00.

Three Leon County Bonds, Nos. 26, 33, and 35, of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 11 to 19, inclusive, attached, for fifteen hundred and fifteen dollars ($1515.00).

Two (2) Madison County bonds, Nos. 5 and 84, of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 6 to 25, inclusive, attached, for seven hundred and twenty-eight 86-100 dollars, ($728.86). The balance of

the purchase money for said bonds having been paid by the Trustees of Madison county.

One (1) Bond of the City of Jacksonville No. 18, of the denomination of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00). with all coupons off, for two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00).

One Columbia County Bond, No. 144, of the denomination of five hundred dollars, with all coupons off, for five hundred dollars ($500.00).

One (1) Columbia County Bond, No. 48, of the denomination of two hundred and fifty dollars, with all coupons off, for two hundred and fifty dollars.

Two (2) Columbia County Bonds, Nos. 55 & 56, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, with all coupons off, for two hundred dollars ($200.00.)

One (1) Columbia County bond, No. 243, of the denomination of two hundred and fifty dollars, with coupons Nos. 24 to 40, inclusive, attached, for two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00.)

On motion the action of the Treasurer was approved and he was directed to cancel said bonds in the presence of the Attorney General.

The following bills were approved and ordered paid:

Postmaster, for postage stamps, etc., for Salesman's office for February and March, 1893, twenty-five dollars ($25.00.)

Postmaster, for postage stamps, etc., for Salesman's office for April, 1893, twenty-six dollars ($26.00.)

W. A. Givens, Clerk Ct. Ct. Hillsborough county for recording Quit Claim deeds, two 30-100 dollars ($2.30.)

Weekly Tallahasseean, for publishing Notice, "Bonds Wanted," in February, 1893, two dollars ($2.00.)

Weekly Tallahasseean for blank deeds for Salesman's Office, Three 75-100 dollars ($3.75).

Floridian Printing Company, for printing 500 lists of lands, April, 1893, nine 25-100 dollars ($9.25-100), blanks for Salesman's Office, June, 1893, four 63-100 dollars ($4.63-100). Deeds for I. I. Lands, July, 1893, Four 60-100 dollars ($4.60-100) making a total for Floridian Printing Company of Eighteen 48-100 dollars, ($18.48-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 17, 1893.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communications were received and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Quincy, Florida, July 17th, 1893.

"To the Honorable, The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla.

"Gentlemen:—I have the honor herewith to enclose to you a certified copy of the Resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, accepting the provisions of the late Act of the Legislature of this State, approved May 27th, 1893. These Resolutions were forwarded to me by Samuel Maddox, Esqr., Secretary of the said Board of Directors, with request that I have them properly filed, and that the Secretary of your Board do acknowledge receipt thereof to him. I request that they be spread upon the minutes of your Board, and that your Secretary be directed to acknowledge receipt of same to Samuel Maddox, Esqr., Secretary of Board of Directors of said Company.

"Very respectfully,
"(Signed) P. W. WHITE,
"Atty. for Canal Co."

"At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, held at the office of the Company in the City of New York on the 7th day of July, A. D. 1893, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, 1st, That the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company hereby accepts the provisions of the State of Florida, approved May 27, A. D. 1893, and entitled An Act to amend section four (4) of an Act entitled "An Act to be entitled an Act in Relation to the Land Grant of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and Prescribing the Duties of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in Relation thereto, the Right of Settlement Thereon, and the Specifications for the Construction of its Waterways, and the Time of its completion from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay" Approved May 29, 1889,."

Resolved, 2nd, That the foregoing resolution be entered on the minutes of the Company and that a certified copy thereof be forwarded by the Secretary of this Board to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida at Tallahassee, notifying them of the acceptance of the provisions of the said Act by the said Company, and to request an acknowledgment of the receipt and filing thereof.

"A true copy
"Test:
"SAM. MADDOX,
"Secretary."

Seal
Florida Coast Line
Canal and Transportation
Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 19, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was received, approved and spread upon the minutes:

"Office of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway.
"Starke, Fla., July 15th, 1893.

"DETAILS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST FIVE MILE SECTION OF THE ATLANTIC, SUWANNEE RIVER AND GULF RAILWAY.

EQUIPMENT—The entire equipment shall be first class and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

ROAD BED—Embankments, 12 feet.
Excavations, 14 feet.
Slope, 1½ feet to 1 foot.

CURVES—Maximum 4 degrees except junction with F. C. & P. R. R. at Starke, which is 8 degrees. Elevation of curves, ½ seconds to degree of curvature.

GRADE—Maximum, 40 feet to mile.

BALLAST—Sand.

GAUGE—4 feet 8½ inches.

RAIL—60 lbs. to yard. Steel Rail.

FASTENINGS—Fish plates 4 bolts to joint. Spikes 9-16 inches x 5½ inches.

CROSSINGS—Yellow pine and cypress. 7 inches x 9 inches—8 feet & 9 feet principally 9 feet—2640 to mile.

ROAD CROSSINGS—Yellow pine 3 inch plank.

WATERWAYS—Terra cotta tile 12 inches & 18 inches.

CATTLE GAPS—Timbered—open.

BRIDGES—Pile trestle, across canal between Rowell Lake and Sampson Lake—96 feet. Piles 12 inches heart cypress—driven with 2,000 lb. hammer—4 piles to bent, capped with 12 inches x 12 inches yellow heart pine, drift bolted to each pile—spans 12 feet center to center. Stringers 12 inches x 14 inches—24 feet heart yellow pine fastened together at each joint with 2 pieces 3 inches x 14 inches—4 feet one on each side

clapped 2 inches on cap and bolted through. Ties 6 inches x 8 inches—8 feet, every 5th tie laid on edge and clapped 2 inches on stringer. Guard rail 6 inches x 8 inches clapped 1 inche on each tie and bolted to every 5th tie.

(Signed) GEO. TOMPSETT,
Chief Engineer.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 3, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present:—Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

It was ordered that the Treasurer of the Board do pay to Hon. P. W. White, the sum of fifty dollars, on account of legal services in the case of W. H. H. Gleason vs. Trustees I. I. Fund *et al*

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Oct. 17, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

I. L. Harris, Attorney for the Jacksonville, Mayport and Pablo Railway and Navigation Company, appeared before the Trustees and requested deeds for lands earned by the said Railway Company that lay within the six and twenty mile limits of said road. Whereupon it was

Ordered, That the Commissioner of Agriculture prepare deeds for the Jacksonville, Mayport and Pablo Railway and Navigation Company for all lands patented to the State under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, that lay within the six and twenty mile limits of said line of Rail Road not heretofore conveyed and not covered by an application of a settler, said deed embracing three thousand and twenty nine and ninety seven hundredths (3029.97) acres.

The Commissioner of Agriculture brought before the Board the application of Samuel Ham to have refunded him the amount of the purchase money paid by said Ham, for the NE¼ of NE¼ of Section 29, Township 33, South, Range 35, East, which said Ham had purchased from the State April 2d, 1886, and embraced in Entry No. 13382. The Commissioner of Agriculture stated that said land had never been patented to the State and that the claim of the State to said tract had been rejected by the General Land Office and the land had been entered at the United States Land Office, and that he had procured a certificate from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Osceola county, where the land lay, that the said Ham had never sold or mortgaged it, and also a quit claim deed from said Ham to the land: Whereupon it was

Ordered, That Entry No. 13382, of April 2d, 1886, covering the North East quarter of the North East quarter of section twenty-nine (29), of Township thirty-three (33) South, of Range thirty-five (35) East, in favor of Samuel Ham, be cancelled, and the amount of the purchase money, amounting to forty 5-100 dollars ($40.05) be refunded to said Ham by the Treasurer of this Board.

The Commissioner of Agriculture and Salesman of this Board was directed to prepare deeds at once for all lands that lay within the six and twenty mile limits of all Land Grant Railroads about which there was no contest, which were not covered by the application of any settlers.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 18, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. P. W. White appeared before the Board on behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and requested that certain funds arising from the sale of lands within the reservation of said Canal Company be paid over to the Treasurer of said Company. After due consideration, it was unanimously.

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees adheres to the position taken by the Board in a communication to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, dated April 20th, 1891.

The following report of H. S. Duval, Engineer, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"River Junction, Florida, Aug. 19th, 1893.

"Hon. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Sec'y & Treas. Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Sir:—In obedience to your instructions of July 12th, I left on the 25th ultimo to make an inspection of the construction of the first section of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad. As this road is being constructed under a charter suspiciously worded to escape the restrictions, provisions and specifications of the Internal Improvement Act, I felt it my duty to forestall any legislative ingeniousness by professionally classing it, after a thorough examination, as it might come, under the category of a tramway if it was not a railroad and reporting the fact to you. Thus prepared I made on the 26th ultimo an inspection of the first section extending from Starke to Lake Sampson, a distance of five miles; first passing over it on a crank car and then discharging the car and returning on foot, scrutinizing most closely every rod of the route. I found that while the materials such as rails, bolts, spikes, plates, crossties and dimensions of banks and road-way fully come up to specifi-

cations, nevertheless the unworkmanlike and desultory manner in which the work has been executed made it apparent that the company had been the victim of some careless or inexperienced trackman. So I returned from the inspection and immediately notified the President by letter (a copy of which I mailed to you) to have his road aligned, ballaced and surfaced, and the ditches shaped and put to draining. On the 10th inst. I was notified by the General Manager that all of my suggestions had been complied with and the road would be ready for inspection again on the 16th or 17th. So I proceeded to Starke, and on the 16th inst. re-inspected the first section, and was gratified to find that the company had been giving it a most thorough over-hauling, leaving me no excuse to make further objections as to the construction of the first section. But it occurred to me that as the road-bed was an old one and had been originally constructed to connect Starke with the G. S. & F. Railroad and therefore, put up as a railroad, and not a tramway, embankment, I would go and see what was the character of this company's embankment and cross-ties, and its work generally beyond the crossing of the G. S. & F. Railroad, for this would unquestionably settle the question whether or not this company was making a temporary iron tramway for the transportation of logs and imposing it on the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund under an independent charter as a railroad entitled to a land grant. So I put out on foot and walked some three or four miles along the new road bed to the 1st Logging Station, thus taking in the situation most thoroughly, and I am constrained to say better dressed banks and more solid cross-ties never came under my observation, and no road ever constructed in this State with a 12 ft. road bed can boast of better finished work. Let me say the entire length of the F. C. & P. Railroad and many others, with a 12 ft. road-bed and the same slope of embankments as this road were constructed under like specifications, and I believe still hold to them. Hence it is impossible to put this road in the category of tram ways as the character of its construction speaks out for itself. The rails used on the completed portion is second handed steel rails and very much superior to the iron used by the Plant Investment Company in laying its track South of

Live Oak. I understand that much of this same lot of steel rail has been purchased for the Flagler road. Coming to a log camp would naturally cast a reflection on any road, but not justly so. It is a rule in the location of a railroad to connect together the most populous cities and centres of population between its termini. But in the case of the Florida Southern, there being no populous districts to link together on its route, it connected together the most valuable bodies of timber lands. So likewise does this road propose to do adding phosphate deposits to its connections. As the Florida Southern which was never half so well constructed as this road became one of our great iron arteries, through which the products of our country pass, so likewise may this road attain to the same success fostered by the liberal encouragement of the Internal Improvement Act. But be this as it may, I have the honor to report that the 1st section of five miles extending from Starke on the F. C. & P. Railroad to and along the shores of Lake Sampson is now finished up to specification, practically in a workmanlike manner, and I am constrained to approve the same as the engineer acting in the interest of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Respectfully,

"H. S. DUVAL."

The bonds of J. J. Johnson and Madison McKinney as Timber Agents were approved and ordered spread on the minutes.

"State of Florida. }
"County of Lafayette. }

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, J. J. Johnson, as principal, and Eugene S. Gaulden, T. P. Charles and W. F. Luther, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto Henry L. Mitchell, Governor and President of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and his successors in office, in the sum of Two thousand dollars, lawful money, for the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we do bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals and dated this 7th day of August, 1893.

"THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION is such, That, whereas, the above bounden J. J. Johnson was, on the tenth day of July A. D. 1893, elected by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida as Timber Agent of said Board in and for said County of Lafayette, to hold his office during the pleasure of said Board of Trustees of the Interual Improvement Fund and until his successor is duly elected.

"NOW, THEREFORE, If the said J. J. Johnson shall faithfully perform the duties of his said office, by collecting the stumpage which may from time to time become due to said Board of Trustees, and paying the same over promptly to the Treasurer oof the Board, then this obligation to be void, else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

"Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of
"JOHN L. HOGAN.

J. J. JOHNSON. (L. S.)

"W. L. C. HAIGLER.

EUGENE S. GAULDEN. (L. S.)
T. P. CHAIRES. (L. S.)
W. F. LUTHER. (L. S.)

"State of Florida, }
"County of }

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, Madison McKinney, as principal, and Joseph Wilhams and Thomas S. Goodbread as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto Henry L. Mitchell, Governor and President of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and his successors in office, in the sum of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) lawful money, for the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we do bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals, and dated this 20th day of July, 1893.

"THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION is such, that whereas, the above bounden Madison Mc-

Kinney was, on the 26th day of April, 1893, elected by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, as Timber Agent for that portion of the State lying and being between the boundary line that divides the counties of Lafayette and Taylor and the St. Marks River in Wakulla County, to hold his office during the pleasure of said Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and until his successor is elected.

"NOW, THEREFORE, If the said Madison McKinney shall faithfully perform the duties of his said office, by collecting the stumpage which may from time to time become due to said Board of Trustees, and paying the same over promptly to the Treasurer of the Board, then this obligation to be void, else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

MADISON McKINNEY. (L. S.)
JOSEPH WILLIAMS. (L. S.)
THOMAS S. GOODBREAD. (L.S.)

Signed, sealed and
delivered in presence of
J. R. ALLEN.
D. M. HENDERSON.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased two (2) Jefferson County Bonds, Nos. 37 and 38, of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, and two (2) Jefferson County Bonds, Nos. 140 and 141, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, all with coupons Nos. 7 to 30, inclusive, attached, paying therefor the sum of twelve hundred dollars, and on motion the action of the Treasurer was approved and the Bonds ordered to be cancelled and turned over to the Treasurer of Jefferson County.

The following bills were ordered paid:

Post Master, Tallahassee, for postage, etc. for Salesman's Office for the month of June, 1893, six dollars.

Post Master, Tallahassee, for postage, etc., for Salesman's Office for the month of August 1893, thirty nine 25-100 dollars.

W. N. Shine, Manager Floridian Printing Company, for printing and binding two books records of deeds for I. I. Fund under new law, Eighteen Dollars.

Southern Express Company, for express charges on cancelled bonds sent to counties. One 30-100 dollars.

Bill of H. S. Duval, Engineer, for Inspecting four miles of Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad, two inspections, two hundred and fifty dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 28, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

A communication was received from Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys in relation to 103 Bonds involved in the case of The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund ats. The Union Trust Company of New York, in United States Supreme Court.

After due consideration, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas*, by a decree rendered in 1889 by the Supreme Court of the United States affirming the decree of the United States Circuit Court *in re*, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida ats. The Union Trust Company of New York, The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund are declared to be the owners and entitled to possession of one hundred and three bonds issued by the Tallahassee Railroad and other Railroad Companies under the Internal Improvement act of 1855, and

"*Whereas*, said bonds were at the time said decree was rendered in the hands of A. Doggett, Master, who neglected to turn them over to the Trustees under the decree, and

"*Whereas*, we are informed that said bonds are now in the hands of Rev. Frederick Pasco:

"*Therefore, be it resolved*, That Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, be and they are hereby authorized, in

the name of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, to demand and receive said bonds from the said Rev. Frederick Pasco or any other person in whose hands the said bonds may be, and to institute such proceedings at law as may be necessary to obtain possession of said bonds.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 9, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. J. L. Gaskins, representing the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company, appeared before the Board and applied for a certificate for lands due under the provisions of sections 9 and 10, of an Act of the Legislature approved May 24th, 1893, entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company, to Grant said Corporation certain Privileges, and to Aid the Construction thereof," being Chapter 4267, Laws of Florida. It having been shown to the Board that five miles of said Railroad have been crosstied, ironed and in operation; whereupon it was

Ordered, That the salesman prepare certificates embracing in the aggregate (50,000) fifty thousand acres of land, certifying that said Railway Company was entitled to locate, the certificates being in the following words and figures, and numbered respectively, 14891 A, 14891 B 14891 C, and 14891 D.

"INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, STATE OF FLORIDA.

"CERTIFICATE NO. 14891 A. 12500.00 ACRES.

"*Whereas,* the Legislature of the State of Florida, by an Act approved May 24th, 1893, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company," in the ninth section thereof, did grant to the said Railway Company, ten thousand acres of land per mile, for each mile of railroad that said company may construct, of the lands granted the State of Florida under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, and

"*Whereas,* under Section ten of the Act above mentioned, it is provided that said Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company, its successors and assigns, shall have the privilege of requiring and having from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund a certificate authorizing and entitling it to locate the lands which it may at any time have earned and become entitled to as aforesaid: And it is further set forth in said Section ten, "And whenever and as often as the said corporation shall file with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund a plat and survey of the lands located by it in pursuance of a certificate given it by the Trustees as herein provided, the said Trustees shall set apart and upon demand execute unto said corporation, its successors or assigns, a deed conveying unto it the lands described in said plat and survey, from the swamp and overflowed lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, and

"*Whereas,* said corporation has furnished satisfactory evidence to said Trustees that it has completed, cross-tied and ironed and have in operation five miles of Railroad, commencing at Starke, Bradford County, Florida, and running westward five miles towards a point on the Georgia Southern and Florida Railway known as Sampson City, Bradford County, Florida, which said five miles have been inspected by the State Engineer and accepted by him as having been constructed in accordance with the specifications prescribed by the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and

"*Whereas,* said corporation has applied for a certificate authorizing it to locate fifty thousand acres of land as hereinbefore set forth, and requested that said certificates be issued in four pieces numbered as follows—14891 A, 14891 B, 14891 C, and 14891 D.

"*Now Therefore,* the Trustees of the Internal Improovement Fund of the State of Florida, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the Act of the Legislature aforesaid, do hereby certify that the said Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company is entitled to locate twelve thousand five hundred acres of land of the lands granted the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850.

"*In Witness Whereof,* The said Trustees have hereunto signed their names and affixed their seals and have caused to be affixed the seal of the Department of Agriculture aforesaid at the Capitol in the city of Tallahassee on this the ninth day of December, A. D. 1893.

(SEAL)
Governor
(SEAL)
Comptroller.
(SEAL)
Treasurer.
(SEAL)
Attorney General.
(SEAL)
Commissioner of Agriculture."

The following communication was received and read:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 8, 1893.

"Hon. Henry L. Mitchell,
"Governor and Chairman Board Trustees I. I.
"Fund, Tallahassee, Fla.

"Sir:—I have the honor to inform you that the portion of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad between the city of Tallahassee and the town of Carrabelle, will be ready for inspection by the State Engineer on the 20th inst. I would, therefore, request that you notify the engineer, and instruct him to call on Mr. J. A. McDuffie, the general manager of the company, at his

office in Tallahassee; and he will make all the necessary arrangements for taking him over the road.

"Very respectfully,
"FRED. T. MYERS,
"Atty. for C. T. & G. R. R. Co.

And it was ordered, that the Secretary request H. S. Duval, Esq., Engineer, to make the inspection as requested in the foregoing communication, and report to the Board.

The Board then adjourned,

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 18, 1893.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary presented and read a communication from the South Florida Railroad Company stating that an extension of said Company's railroad had been completed from Juliette, on the S. F. O. & G. R. R., to a point on the S. F. & W. Railway near the Santa Fe River, and asking that an Engineer be designated for the purpose of inspecting said extension; whereupon, it was

Ordered, That the secretary of the Board request Col. John Bradford to make the inspection asked for and make due report thereof to the Board.

A letter was read from M. McKinney, State Timber Agent, asking for instructions, and after due consideration thereof the Secretary of the Board was directed to instruct Mr. McKinney and Mr. Johnson, Timber Agents, to collect stumpage before the timber is moved and to give receipts for all money so collected and immediately forward th money to the Treasurer of the Board.

It was *Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the Board pay to L. B. Wombwell for the Commissioner of the General

Land Office, Washington, D. C., the sum of one hundred and thirty-one 65-100 dollars, to pay for certified lists of the lands approved to the State of Florida under the Act of Congress of May 17th, 1856, "to aid in the construction of certain railroads, etc.," including money order fees.

The following communication from Messrs. Cooper and Cooper was read, and the accompanying bill, amounting to twenty 10-100 dollars ($20.10) was ordered paid.

"Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 8th, 1893.

"Wm. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Secretary Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of Florida,

"Dear Sirs:—We herein enclose to you bill from Geo. E. Wolfe, Clerk of Circuit Court, Nassau county, in the sum of $20.10, for deeds certified copies thereof, etc., Florida Railroad Lands furnished in the sinking fund case represented by our Mr. C. M. Cooper. Please remit the amount of this bill, so that we can adjust this bill, and oblige,

"COOPER & COOPER.
"M. C. B."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 10, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following statement from the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company was presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Statement of Expenditures on account of contract

with the Board of Internal Improvement Fund from August 1, 1892, to December 31, 1893.

Expended for Maintenance of Dredges and Tenders.

Labor	$10,766.99
Operating expenses	6,634.66
Repairs	4,210.73
Ship yard at Kissimmee.	
Labor	3,022.51
Operating expenses	753.66
Drainage Survey	1,789.66
Office Expenses	1,039.77
Salary of Chief Engineer	4,958.22
Insurance on Dredges and Tenders	917.08
Taxes on Dredges and Ship Yard	186.33
General Expense	295.95
	$34,575.56

It was resolved, That the accounts submitted by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company to December 31st, 1893, be and the same are hereby approved; and that the Company having complied with their contract, that 825,056 acres of land be conveyed to said company of its selections, and the State having received U. S. Patents for same. Also that the Band of Hamilton Disston and J. J. Dunne for the sum of $125,000 be cancelled and surrendered.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 8, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. Hugh A. Corley appeared before the Board in the interest of Henry Wells Esq., of Washington, D. C., and made the following application:

"To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State oof Florida.

"Gentlemen:—I hereby apply on behalf of Henry Wells for payment of the amount due to him under the contract made by Randolph and Wells with the State of Florida for the selection of Swamp land sunder the Act of Congress of Sept. 28th, 1850. The amount due is 8 mills per acre for all lands selected by him and which have been patented to the State since July 31, 1881, the date of the last payment made to him on this account.

"Very respectfully,

"HUGH A. CORLEY,

Agent for Henry Wells.

Whereupon it was ordered:

That the Commissioner of Agriculture ascertain how much land had been patented to the State under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, since July 31st, 1881, which was selected by Henry Wells, and also to ascertain whether any other agent of the State had been paid for selecting the same lands; and, if so, how much had been paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 21, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The attention of the Board was called to the fact that A. B. Hawkins had commenced a proceeding in chancery in the Circuit Court in and for Leon County to compel the Trustees to pay interest on past due bonds of the

Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Railway Company, from which bonds all coupons had been detached and paid. The Board decided to employ Col. Fred T. Myers as Attorney, and the Secretary was instructed to so inform Mr. Myers, and ask him to represent the Board.

The Secretary of the Board was also instructed to write to Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, and ask that a member of the firm be sent at once to Tallahassee to consult with the Board in reference to the 103 bond suit and the suit commenced by Samuel D. O. Wilson in the United States Court.

The following report of Col. John Bradford was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Florida, February 16th, 1894.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees of I. I. Fund of Florida.

"Sirs:—In accordance with your instructions I have examined the extension of the South Fla. Rail Road from Juliette Station on the S. S. O. & G. R. R. to a point on the S. F. & W. Ry. near Santa Fe River and find the same well constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Improvement Act and modifications thereto allowed, except that the timber has been cleared fifty instead of sixty feet on each side of the track. About four miles of track nearest Santa Fe Junction is laid with 50 lb. rail, but arrangements are made to immediately relay with 60 lb. rail as on the remainder of the track. Grades are all right and no curves exceeding 3 degrees except at the crossing at Archer of the F. C. & P. R. R., where there is a 6 degree curve. There is no objection to this as trains are compelled to move slowly near crossings. The length of line is —

	M.	ft.
Juliette Junction to Morriston Junction	12	256
Morriston Junction to Archer	19	3167
Archer to Santa Fe Junction	23	531

"The road from Morriston to Archer is owned by the F. C. & P. and operated jointly with the S. F. R. R.

"Respectfully submitted,

"JOHN BRADFORD, State Engineer."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 26, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Messrs. John C. Cooper and F. T. Myers, Attorneys, appeared before the Board for consultation in reference to the suits pending in State and United States Courts in which they are employed as counsel for the Trustees.

H. S. Duval, the Engineer appointed by the Board to inspect the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad, made the following report:

"River Junction, Gadsden Co., Florida,
"Jan. 15th, 1894.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen:—In accordance with your instructions of the 9th ultimo, received through your Secretary, I made on the 13th inst., an inspection of that part of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad lying between the 20th mile post from Carrabelle and the City of Tallahassee, a distance of nearly thirty miles. The first twenty miles out of Carrabelle were completed some time before and the examination made and reported on by Col. John Bradford, Civil Engineer. Knowing the country through which the last thirty miles passes to contain tracts of valuable timber I was expecting to find the road crudely and cheaply constructed as is usually the custom in building railroads through timber lands. In lieu thereof I found a railway constructed in every respect in a first class *bona fide* manner. The engineering being perfect in every detail and studied out with a precision not usually found. The pains-taking practice of the Chief Engineer, Mr. F. P. Damon, and the honest character of the work as executed by the contractors are commendable. In fact the whole work is a culmination of honor to all engaged in the enterprise. In a short time, when the green banks have seasoned, as they say in railroad parlance, so as the road bed can be kept in surface and the track in alignment, it will be possible to main-

tain a high speed over the entire route, for it is the best spiked road that has ever come under my observation. With these comments I respectfully submit the road to you with my approval of its construction.

"Respectfully,

"H. S. DUVAL,

"Engineer for the State Board of Trustees I. I. Fund."

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

"*Be it resolved* that the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad be and the same is hereby accepted as being constructed in full compliance with the provisions of the Internal Improvement act.

"*Resolved, further,* that the Commissioner of Agriculture be directed to prepare deeds for a quantity of the lands granted to the State under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, sufficient to put said company upon equal footing with the Ocala, Silver Springs & Gulf Railroad Company, said lands to be taken from those nearest the line of said railroad applicable to the grant."

The following certificate was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., January 16th, 1894.

"I, Frank P. Damon, Chief Engineer of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee and Georgia Railroad Company, do hereby certify that the total length of the railroad of said company now constructed between Carrabelle and Tallahassee is 48 82-100 miles, that the length of the portion of said road inspected by Capt. H. S. Duval, State Engineer, is 28 82-100 miles, the other 20 miles having been previously inspected and reported upon by Col. Jno. Bradford by direction of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

"FRANK P. DAMON,

"Chief Engineer C. T. & G. R. R. Co."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 2, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased the following bonds for the Sinking Fund of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad.

One Florida 6 per cent Bond, No. 400, of the denomination of one thousand dollars, and five (5) Florida 6 per cent. bonds, Nos. 949, 950, 951, 952 and 953, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, making fifteen hundred dollars of bonds, for which he paid fifteen hundred and ninety dollars; and that he had purchased the following bonds for the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad: Three (3) Florida 6 per cent bonds, Nos. 333, 334 and 335, of the denomination of one thousand dollars each, and four (4) Florida 6 per cent bonds, Nos. 2908, 2909 and 2910, and 719 of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, making three thousand four hundred dollars of bonds, for which he paid three thousand six hundred and four dollars.

Upon motion the action of the Treasurer was approved.

The bill of R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for stamped envelopes furnished the Salesman's office, Feby. 12th, 1894, amounting to forty four dollars was read and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 14, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, for retainer in case of Wilson vs. Trustees, two hundred and fifty dollars, and for retainer in case of F. Pasco, *in re* "103" bond case, two hundred and fifty dollars, making a total of five hundred dollars.

W. D. Hartt, for oak standing desk for Salesman's Office, eighteen dollars.

C. A. Bryan, Clerk, for certified copy of bill of complaint in the case of A. B. Hawkins vs. Trustees, three 15-100 dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 24, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report of H. S. Duval, State Engineer, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"River Junction, Florida, March 15th, 1894.

"Honorable Board of Trustees I. I. Fund,

"Gentlemen:—I received through your Secretary, your order to inspect the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway, and on the 12th inst. I inspected the second, third and fourth sections, of five miles each, of that road, and found them constructed in workmanlike manner, the completed work showing no other defects than the usual temporary ones of new railroads, incident to green embankments, which time and constant surfacing of the track and pounding of heavy trains can remedy. The elegant passenger equipments and immense Mogul Engine of the Company gave out an air of business on a scale incommensurable with any second rate enterprise and confirms the statements in my former report that this is to be a standard railway, and you can safely take the enter-

prise under your fostering care. As I could find no reasonable complaint in the manner of its construction I am constrained to approve the same.

"Respectfully,
"H. S. DUVAL, Engineer."

Hon. J. L. Gaskin and D. G. Ambler, Esqr., appeared before the Board on behalf of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company and made application for certificates for lands due under the provisions of sections 9 and 10 of An Act of the Legislature, approved May 23d, 1893, entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway Company, to Grant said Corporation certain Privileges, and to Aid in the Construction thereof," being Chapter 4267 of the Laws of Florida.

It having been shown to the Board that fifteen miles of said Railway have been constructed in addition to the five miles upon which certificates were given December 9th, 1893, and further appearing by the report of the State Engineer that said additional fifteen miles were constructed in accordance with the prescribed specifications, it was

Ordered that the Salesman prepare certificates embracing in the aggregate one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, certifying that said railway company is entitled to locate the same, the certificate to be substantially in the same form as those issued December 9th, 1893, a copy of one of which appears on pages 31 and 32 of this minute book.

The following accounts were ordered paid:

H. S. Duval, State Engineer, for inspecting fifteen miles of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railway, one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

John Bradford, State Engineer, for inspecting the extension of the South Florida Railroad from Juliette Station on the S. S. O. & G. R. R. to a point on the S. F. & W. Ry. near Santa Fe River, as per report made to the Board February 21st, 1894, one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

Floridian Printing Company, for printing for Salesman's Office, three 25-100 dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 29, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company has re-conveyed to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-one acres and seventy-seven one hundredths of an acre (68,821 77-100) of land which land had been conveyed to said Company by the Trustees under the terms of the drainage contract then existing, such reconveyance being in words and figures as follows:

"ATLANTIC AND GULF COAST CANAL AND OKEECHOBEE LAND COMPANY.

"Deed No. ——

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida, in consideration of the sum of one dollar, receipt acknowledged, doth, by these presents grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, heirs and assigns forever, the following described lands towit.

"All of Section one; the south half of Section three, and all of Sections five, seven, nine and eleven, Township

"All of Sections one, three, five, seven, fifteen, nineteen, twenty-nine, thirty-one and thirty-three, Township forty-four, South, Range thirty, East.

"All of Sections nineteen, twenty-one, twenty-three, twenty-five twenty-seven, twenty-nine, thirty-one, thirty-

three and thirty-five, Township forty-four, South, Range thirty-one, East.

"Lots one, two, three and four, the South half of the North East quarter, the South half of the North West quarter and the South half of Section one, Lots one, two, and three, the South half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter of the North West quarter and the South half of Section three; the South half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter of the North West quarter, the North East quarter of the Souh West quarter and the South East quarter of Section seven; the South East quarter of the North East quarter and the South East quarter of Section Nine

"All of Sections Eleven, Thirteen, Fifteen, Seventeen, Nineteen, Twenty-one, Twenty-three, Twenty-five, Twenty-seven, and Twenty-nine; Lots One, Two, Three, and Four, the East half, the East half of the North West quarter and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-one; and all of sections Thirty-three and Thirty-five. Tonwship Forty-five, South, Range Twenty-seven, East.

"All of Sections One, Three, Five, Seven, Nine, Eleven, Thirteen, Fifteen, Seventeen, Nineteen, twenty-one, Twenty-three, Twenty-seven, and Twenty-nine; Lots One, Two, Three and Four, the East half, the East half of the North West quarter and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-one, all of Sections Thirty-three, Thirty-five and Twenty-five, Township Forty-five, South, Range Twenty-eight, East.

"All Sections One, Three, Five, Seven, Nine, Eleven, Thirteen and Fifteen; the North half of Section Seventeen; all of Sections Nineteen, Twenty-one, Twenty-three and Twenty-five; the West half and the South East quarter of Section Twenty-nine; all of section Thirty-one, and the South half of Section Thirty-three, Township Forty-five, South, Range Twenty-nine, East.

"All of Sections One, Three Five, Seven, Nine, Eleven, Thirteen, Fifteen, Seventeen, Nineteen, Twenty-one, Twenty-three, Twenty-five, Twenty-seven, Twenty-nine, Thirty-one, Thirty-three and Thirty-five, Township Forty-five, South, Range Thirty, East.

"All of Sections One, Three, Five, Seven, Nine, Eleven, Thirteen, Fifteen, Seventeen, Nineteen, Twenty-one,

Twenty-three, Twenty-five, Twenty-seven, Twenty-nine, Thirty-one, Thirty-three and Thirty-five, Township Forty-five, South, Range Thirty-one, East.

"Lots Three and Four of Section Nineteen, and all of Section Thirty-one, Township Forty-five, South, Range Thirty-two, East, containing according to United States Surveys in the State of Florida, Sixty-eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-one and Seventy-seven One Hundredths Acres, situate in Lee County, Florida; To Have And To Hold unto the said grantee, their successors forever; and the said grantor, for itself and its successors in interest, covenants to and with the said grantee and their successors that it is lawfully seized in fee of the afore granted premises; that they are free and clear of all incumbrances; that it has the right to sell and convey the same as aforesaid, and that the title to all and singular the said granted premises, it, to said grantee, against all persons lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof, will forever Warrant and Defend. Attest the corporate seal of said corporation, grantor and the signature of the president thereof this thirteenth day of December A. D. 1893.

"(Signed) ATLANTIC AND GULF COAST CANAL AND OKEECHOBEE LAND COMPANY, By HAMILTON DISSTON,
President.

"Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presence of
J. J. CARMALT.
J. E. BEACH.

Attest:
ALEX KRUMBHAAR,
Assistant. Secretary.

Corporate Seal.

"State of Florida. }
County of Osceola } ss.

To All Whom It May Concern: Be it Known that on this 13th day of ..... A. D. 189.. personally appeared before me, the undersigned, I. Arscott Tickell, a Notary Public duly authorized and commissioned under the laws of Florida, Hamilton Disston, President of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, who being personally known to me as such

President, acknowledged that he executed the foregoing deed of conveyance as the act and deed of the said President, for the uses and purposes therein contained. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 13th day of March A. D. 1894.

"(Signed.) I. ARSCOTT TICKELL,
"Notary Public, State of Florida."

(SEAL)

And Whereas, Said Company has made application to select and receive a conveyance for other land in lieu of the land so re-conveyed; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company be and is hereby authorized to select Sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-one and seventy-seven one hundredths acres (68,821 77-100) acres of the lands patented or to be patented to the State under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying and being within the drainage district and that when the lands are so selected and patented that the Salesman prepare deeds of conveyance to said Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 9, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, President.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. D. G. Ambler appeared before the Board on behalf of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad Company and asked that the lands granted to said Company by the Act of the Legislature of 1893, Chapter 4267, Laws of Florida, be set apart for the benefit of said Company. After considering the question the Board decided to postpone action thereon.

The following communication from J. R. Parrott, Vice President, was ordered spread on the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Apr. 5, 1894.

"Hon. H. L. Mitchell, President, etc.,

"Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, Tallahassee.

"Dear Sir:—I beg to call your attention to the fact that maps of the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway have been filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and also with the Honorable Secretary of your Board.

"The line of this company having been completed between Daytona West Palm Beach, we would respectfully ask that an engineer on behalf of the State be sent to examine and accept this road, in conformity with the rules of your Board and with the act under which this company was incorporated (the general incorporation laws of Florida, May 28th, 1892) and its special land grant, Chapter 4260, Laws of 1893.

"If you will kindly notify me when the State engineer is ready to go down the road, I will be glad to extend to him every facility for inspection. Your kind attention in this matter will be appreciated.

"Very truly yours,

"J. R. PARROTT,

"Vice-President."

Upon motion the Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Parrott that it would be necessary for his road to file details of construction for the line from Daytona South, before an Engineer could be sent to inspect the road.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 9, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Board notify the Atlantic, Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company to select from the 1,200,000 acres of land reserved for said company the 800,000 acres it is entitled to under its grant at the earliest practical period; and that said company notify this Board within thirty days of one hundred thousand acres released from the reserve, as the same is required at once to meet some of the obligations of the Board.

Resolved, 2nd. That when the 100,000 acres are released as above required, the same shall be deeded to the account of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 12, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Floridian Printing Co., Printing for Salesman's Office, ten 75-100 dollars, ($10.75).

Floridian Printing Co., Printing for Salesman's Office, Four 76-100 dollars, ($4.76.)

Savannah Morning News, Printing for Salesman's Office, Fifteen dollars. ($15.00.)

J. B. Whitfield, taking affidavits of Trustees in re Gleason vs. Trustees, Two dollars, ($2.00.)

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, Postage for Salesman's Office, Seventeen 50-100 dollars, ($17.50.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 14, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

W. H. Gleason appeared before the Board and asked for settlement of an old claim that had been presented to former Boards and payment refused.

The Board decided that there was nothing in the matter presented that constituted a claim against the Trustees, and payment was again refused.

The following communication was read:

"Jacksonville, Fla., April 25, 1894.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,
"Sec. Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement
"Fund of Fla., Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—We enclose bill for services rendered March 5th, 1894, by us as Solicitors for Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of Florida in United States Supreme Court in case of Plant Investment Company vs. T. I. I. F. of F. et al.

"This was a bill filed here in the United States Court some years ago by the Plant Investment Company claiming 160,000 acres of land under the J. T. & K. W. Ry. Grant on account of the road built from Kissimmee to Tampa with branch to Bartow.

"The purpose of the bill was also to annul and set aside the mode of distribution of the Internal Improvement Fund lands heretofore adopted and acted on by the Board in deciding upon the priorities of the grants to the

Florida Southern Railroad, J. T. & K. W. Ry., Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad and Canal Company.

"We had the bill dismissed here in the United States Court from which the Plant Investment Company took an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

"We argued recently this case in the United States Supreme Court, and filed briefs also, and obtained the judgment of that Court affirming the ruling of the court below, thus saving and protecting the interests of the fund to a very large extent.

"We think $500.00 is not an unreasonable charge for these services in the United States Supreme Court; but if the Board should think that too much, we leave the matter to them, as we wish to be entirely reasonable in any charges made the Board for services.

"We enclose bill for this amount, but ask that you submit our letter to the Board, and that they make any charge in the bill that may seem to them reasonable.

"Very truly yours,
"COOPER & COOPER,
"McB."

It was ordered that the bill of Cooper and Cooper for five hundred dollars for professional services as set forth in the above letter be paid, and that Messrs. Cooper and Cooper be requested to furnish a certified copy of the decision of the Supreme Court.

The Commissioner of Agriculture presented an application of William P. Haisley, as administrator of the estate of Annie M. Butt, widow of Z. Butt, deceased, asking that the Trustees refund him as such administrator the sum of $40.07 being the amount paid by Z. Butt to the Board of Trustees March 18, 1881, for the purchase of the SW¼ of NW¼, of Section 36, Township 20 S, Range 22 E, and embraced in deed No. 9820. Mr. Haisley having made a quit claim of this tract to the Trustees, and filing with the Salesman a certificate that neither he or Z. Butt, or Annie M. Butt had encumbered said tract by mortgage or otherwise, and it further appearing from the records in the State Land Office that the said SW¼ of NW¼ of Section 36, Township 20 S, Range 22 E, had been sold by the Trustees to Samuel C. Conn, Dec. 11, 1876; it was

Ordered, That the entry made by Z. Butt as to said SW¼ of NW¼ of Section 36, Township 20 South, Range 22 East, be cancelled in the State Land Office, and the amount of the purchase money, $40.07, be refunded to William P. Haisley, administrator, as aforesaid (Forty 07-100 dollars).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 23, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was presented and read:

"Mr. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Secty. Board Trustees I. I. Fund,

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—In reply to your favor of the 11th inst., calling for a report of the Apopka Canal Co.'s work and expenditure under the present contract up to March 31, 1894, I will say on behalf of said company that the contract has been completed with the result of adding a large tract to the agricultural lands of the State. You will understand that it will take some time to make up the report of three years expenditure in proper shape for the Board, but I expect to have it in form during the present month.

"In the meantime, as the bond calls for the approval of the State Engineer as to the *bona fides* of the expenditure, I presume that a conference between him and myself relative to the accounts will be necessary, and I will thank you to indicate whether under such circumstances it is the practice of the Board to receive the report already approved or to receive it without approval in the first instance; and also whether the State Engineer will

be expected to hold such conference at Apopka or at Tallahassee. I am anxious to show him the result of our work and shall take pleasure in facilitating his inspection, provided I have sufficient notice of the time to ensure his proper comfort and accommodation, for which I hope to be prepared within the next three weeks.

"Yours truly,

"LEMUEL H. DAVIS,

"Prest. Apopka Canal Co."

"Orlando, Fla., April 19, 1894.

"P. O. Box 75."

Upon motion the Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Davis that when his report is received the Board will act thereon.

The following specifications of construction for the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway were presented and approved:

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"The following specifications of the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway Company are respectfully submitted:

"First. The gauge shall be standard.

"Second. It shall be equipped with the best quality of steel or iron rail of a weight of not less than sixty pounds per lineal yard to south bank of Jupiter river, and from there to West Palm Beach forty pounds per lineal yard, and well fastened to cross ties with best quality of spikes and plates.

"Third. The cross ties shall be of yellow pine, nine feet long with not less than nine inches face and eight inches thickness, well and carefully bedded, and laid within two and a half feet from center to center.

"Fourth. The grading shall be with a roadbed eighteen feet wide in cuttings, with ditches below grade for proper drainage and fourteen feet wide on embankments, with slopes of one and a half feet base to one foot rise; in all excavations and embankments they shall be so constructed as to have perfect drainage and not permit any standing water within three feet of lower side of cross ties.

"Fifth. In crossing navigable streams, suitable draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same.

"Sixth. The grade shall on no portion of the route exceed forty-five feet per mile, and no single curve shall exceed three degrees of curvature except at the north approach to St. Lucie river bridge, at a point immediately south of Eau Gallie, and at a point where road curves to enter Eau Gallie, and unless approved by the State Engineer.

"Seventh. The entire equipment shall be first class, and at all times sufficient for the prompt transportation of passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

"Eighth. At all water-ways sufficient openings shall be left for the unobstructed passage of the water.

"Ninth. All standing timber for fifty feet from center on each side shall be felled and cleared.

"Respectfully submitted,
"J. R. PARROTT,
"Vice President."

"State of Florida. }
"County of Brevard. }

"J. R. Parrott being duly sworn, says that he is Vice President of the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway Company and thatt he construction of the road was begun at Daytona on the 10th day of May, A. D. 1892, and was completed to West Palm Beach through the counties of Volusia, Brevard and Dade on the 20th day of March, A. D. 1894; that the said road was to be constructed, and has been constructed in full, according to the foregoing specifications.

"J. R. PARROTT.

"Sworn to and subscribed before me
this ..... day of April, A. D. 1894.

.....

"Notary Public State of Florida at Large."

Application having been made for an engineer to inspect the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway from Daytona South, it was

Ordered that H. S. Duval be directed to make such inspection and report to the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 31, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Application being this day made by the Miccosukee Drainage Company for one year's extension of time to complete their drainage work.

Resolved, That the said extension of one year's time so asked for, be granted.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June, 1, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was presented and adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund retain ex Chief Justice George P. Raney, as General Council of the Board during the present administration, and that the Treasurer of the Board is hereby instructed to pay Judge Raney the sum of one thousand dollars as a general retainer during that period.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 18, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Butt, on behalf of self and associates asked for extension of time for payment under their contract for purchase and drainage of marsh land, to July 1, 1895, which was granted.

Bill for one-third (1-3) costs paid in case W. H. Gleason vs. E. L. White, Trustees I. I. Fund et al, amounting to thirteen 85-100 dollars, ($13.85) ordered paid to P. W. White.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 22, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. J. L. Gaskins appeared before the Board on behalf of the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad Co. and presented a map showing selections of land under section 10, of Chapter 4267, Laws of Florida, whereupon the following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That the map or plat showing the lands selected by the Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad Company under Section 10, of Chapter 4267, of the Laws of Florida, which was this day presented to the Board, be filed in the office of the Salesman of this Board.

The vote on said resolution was yeas, 1; nays, 4, and the resolution was declared not adopted.

The Board then adjourned.
Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 6, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. H. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman called attention of the Board to the fact that certain quit claim deeds of the Florida Southern Railway Company covering lands previously conveyed to the Florida Land and Improvement Company by the Trustees had not been recorded in the counties where the lands lay; therefore to remove the apparent cloud to the titles of the Florida Land and Improvement Company, the Salesman was directed to send the deeds to the Clerks of the Court of the respective counties for record, and the Treasurer was directed to pay the recording fees upon presentation by said clerks.

The Salesman need several papers from Dr. R. B. Garnett, of St. Augustine, in reference to a deed from the Trustees to a certain lot in the city of St. Augustine at the corner of Bridge and Washington Streeets, adjacent to the marsh of Maria Sanchez creek. Abstract of title from original grantees to Dr. Garnett and certificate of Clerk of Court and affidavit of citizens as to Dr. Garnett's owning and occupying the lot in question were also placed before the Board. After duly considering this application, the Commissioner of Agriculture was directed to inform Dr. Garnett that this Board was of the opinion that it had no title to the land in question, and would not assume such a right by giving a deed of any kind; but was perfectly willing to have the Commissioner of Agriculture give a certificate under his official seal that the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida had no claim to the land embraced in in said lot.

The Salesman read several communications from H. D. Landers, of Volusia County, asking that the Board refund to him the purchase money paid for certain unsurveyed lands in the South half of Section ten (10) Township Sixteen (16) South of Range Twenty-nine (29) East, the amount being Eighty Dollars ($80.00), Mr. Landers claiming that he had been deceived in the purchase by representations of a County Surveyor upon whose statements he bought the land. The Salesman was ordered to write Mr. Landers that the Trustees could not refund the original purchase money and that, if he chose, he could bring an action against the County Surveyor upon his official bond for damages, for misrepresenting to him the boundaries of the property in the first instance.

The account of Henry Wells, of Washington City, for selecting certain swamp lands under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, by virtue of contract made with Governor Brown in 1851, was presented and ordered to be referred to Judge Raney to report as to whether said account was a proper and legal charge against the Fund.

The following communications from Mr. Disston were read and ordered spread upon the minutes, and the Salesman was ordered to prepare the lists requested, and send to Mr. Disston:

"Philadelphia, Penn., June 8, 1894.

"To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"Gentlemen:—In accordance with your request of the ninth ult., the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company does hereby release the following lands heretofore reserved to said Company, which with the reconveyances made on the 30th Dec. 1893, makes a total aggregate of 104,021 acres.

"We send herewith a copy of the list of lands as reserved to this Company, together with a list of so much thereof as has been released. We desire that the list may be certified as to what portion of the said lands are now owned by the State, both as patented and unpatented.

"Until your Board shall have given us a certified list of how much of the lands selected by us are owned by the

State, we cannot tell what acreage there is in the lands now held reserved to us, but which we think does not greatly exceed the amount that we are entitled to.

"List of Lands hereby released.

Sec. 13, 23, 25, 27, 33, 35.....	T. 38.	R. 34.		
" 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, 19.....	" 39.	" 34.		
" 13, 23, 25, 35.....	" 29.	" 33.		
" 3, 9, 17, 19.....	" 40.	" 33.		
" 25	" 40.	" 32.		
" 1, 11, 13, 23, 25, 35.....	" 41.	" 32.		
" 1.	" 42.	" 32.		
" 19, 27, ...	" 38.	" 36.		
" 7.	" 39.	" 37.		
" 9, 21, 23.....	" 40.	" 37.		
" 9, 21.	" 41.	" 37.		
" 19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 33, 35.....	" 43.	" 36.		
" S½ 21, W½ 27, 29, 23.....	" 42.	" 32.	29,440	
S½ (9 Sections.)	" 44.	" 36.	5,760	
				35,200

"Yours respectfully,

"J. J. DUNNE,
"Vice Prest."

"LIST OF LANDS.

"Filed with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company Dec. 1, 1888, for Reserve to said Drainage Company under their contract of August 1, 1888. List comprising only odd sections.

All the patented and selected lands in..	42	23	1280
	43	"	3824
	44	"	2160
	45	23	1599
	43	24	2560
	45	24	1139
	42	25	3844
	43	"	4824
	44	"	400
	45	"	3079
	43	26	2081
	44	"	2199

All the patented and selected lands in..	30	27	1179
	31	"	2279
	32	"	4162
	44	"	2838
	45	"	1461
	46	"	11520
	26	28	480
	27	"	200
	28	"	1004
	29	"	740
	31	"	470
	32	"	1206
	34	"	599
	35	"	200
	40	"	5966
	42	28	4314
	43	"	4279
	44	"	1121
	46	"	9120
	47	"	11519
	29	29	641
	30	"	2249
	31	"	4448
	32	"	4752
	33	"	2914
	34	"	3198
	39	"	9346
	40	"	2594
	43	"	897
	44	"	320
	45	"	8142
	45	"	2080
	46	"	11520
	47	"	11480
	30	30	1360
	31	"	2152
	32	"	563
	33	"	3200
	35	"	1120
	36	"	1159
	37	"	4934
	38	"	4600
	39	"	1001
	42	"	1471

All the patented and selected lands in..	43	"	2267
	44	"	1280
	30	31	160
	33	"	1711
	34	"	5700
	35	"	3600
	36	"	7156
	37	"	10240
	38	"	7680
	42	"	4130
	43	"	5397
	44	"	960
	26	32	11539
	27	"	11543
	28	"	11520
	29	"	10995
	30	"	9507
	31	"	11897
	37	"	1280
	38	"	640
	40	"	3400
	41	"	9000
	42	"	11520
	43	"	6880
	44	"	2237
	45	"	640
	27	33	12046
	28	"	11520
	29	"	11520
	30	"	11288
	31	"	11918
	32	"	11496
	33	"	11513
	35	"	360
	36	"	3740
	37	"	2890
	39	"	6000
Sec. 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, 19 of.....	40	"	3840
Sec. 7, 17, 19, 21, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33 and 35 of	42	"	6400
All patented and selected lands in....	43	"	11500
	44	"	11500
	45	"	1920
	46	"	11517

All the patented and selected lands in	47	"	11530
	48	"	11503
	28	34	11404
	29	"	11563
	30	"	11596
	31	"	11147
	32	"	11570
	33	"	11478
	37	"	3200
	38	"	10000
Secs. 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, 19 of	39	"	3840
All patented and selected lands in	43	"	11520
	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	47	"	11520
	48	"	11532
	34	35	10790
	35	"	11625
	36	"	11892
	37	"	11520
Secs. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 of	38	"	5760
Secs. 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35 of	43	"	8320
All patented and selected lands in	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	47	"	11520
	37	36	11393
Secs. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 of	38	"	8860
Secs. 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35 of	43	"	5760
All patented and selected lands in	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	37	37	11520
	38	"	11500
Secs. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 33, 35 of	39	"	10220
Secs. 1, 3, 9, 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25, 27, 33, 35 of	40	"	8160
Secs. 1, 3, 9, 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25, 29, 33, 35 of	41	"	8160
Secs. 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 33, 35 of	42	"	9600

All patented and selected lands in.....	43	"	11520
	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	38	38	11600
	39	"	11542
	40	"	11520
	41	"	11520
	42	"	11520
	43	"	11520
	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	41	39	11520
	42	"	11425
	43	"	11520
	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	42	40	10881
	43	"	11121
	44	"	11520
	45	"	11520
	46	"	11520
	43	41	9805
	44	"	9705
	45	"	9800
	46	"	8620
	47	"	7660
Total acres			1,198,436
Less—Trustees			
Cancellation of T 46, R 28.....11520			
" 47, " 28.... 11519			23039
			1,175,397
Add lands substituted.			
T. 47, R. 38.....11520			
" " R. 39.... 11519			23039
			1,198,436

Less lands released by O. L. Co. Jany. 10th, 1893.		
T. 46, R. 27	11520	
" 46 " 29	11520	
" 47 " 29	11480	34520
		1,163,916
Add lands substituted		
T. 47, R. 40	11520	
" 48, R. 41	11520	
" 49, R. 41	11480	34520
		1,198,436
Released by O. L. Co. Apr. 24th, 1891 in favor of St. Cloud and Sugar Belt R. R.		
T. 42, R. 37	9600	
" 42, " 38	11520	
" 43, R. 37	11520	
" 43, " 38	11520	
" 43, " 39	11520	
" 44, " 40	11520	67200
		1,131,236
Released by O. L. Co. by Deed Dec. 30th, 1893 to Trustees I. I. Fund.	68,821	
Released by O. L. Co. in accordance with resolution of the Trustees I. I. Fund of May 12th. 1894.		

	T.	R.		
Sec. 13, 23, 25, 27, 33, 35	38	34		
Sec. 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, 19	39	"		
Sec. 13, 23, 25, 35	29	33		
Sec. 3, 9, 17, 19	40	"		
Sec. 25	40	32		
Sec. 1, 11, 13, 23, 25, 35	41	"		
Sec. 1	42	"		
Sec. 19, 27	38	36		
Sec. 7	39	37		
Sec. 9, 21, 23	40	"		
Sec. 9, 21	41	"		
Sec. 19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 33, 35	43	36		
Sec. S½ 21, W½ 27, 29, 33	42	32	29,440	
S½ (9Sections)	44	36	5,760	104,021
Net reserve June 1st, 1894,				1,027,215

The Bill of Fred. T. Myers, Esq., for Retainer in suit of A. B. Hawkins vs. Trustees I. I. Fund for ($250.00) two hundred and fifty Dollars was presented and ordered paid by the Treasurer.

The report of H. S. Duval, acting as State Engineer, upon the construction of the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway was read and accepted and ordered on the minutes of the Board.

"River Junction, Fla., May 25th, 1893.

"Hon. Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund.

"Gentlemen: In obedience to your instructions of the 25th ult. received through your secretary, to inspect and report on the construction of the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway, I have the honor to reply, that I immediately repaired to the field of observation and on arriving there found 189 1-10 miles of railway in a state of completion, being somewhat over nine regular sections offered for inspection in accordance with the Internal Improvement Act; which would require considerable time, pains and care to complete, as I had been admonished by His Excellency to see that my inspections be not performed in a desultory manner, but accurately, practically and professionally; leaving no good cause for complaint for outside critics and commentators; hence I was necessitated to visit and pass over the road a number of times. Leaving the regular trains, after I had exhausted all I could see from their rear ends, and coming down to "hard pan," I obtained instructions to command the services of every section master on the line, and with the aid of their crank cars, I examined every yard of the roadbed, every rail, tie, joint, trestle and bridge from beginning to ending, omitting nothing, and as far as I could the foundations of bridge works, with the same degree of accuracy that an engineer would do when examining a road he had to receive for his company. Beginning first at Daytona, I inspected the route as follows:

"SECTION 1.

"Ending between New Smyrna and Oak Hill, 20 miles South of Daytona I found on this Section two trestle bridges, one over Spring Cr. and the other over Turn-

bull Cr. each some hundred feet in length, and both substantially constructed. Road bed, iron, etc., well up to specifications, but cross-ties suspiciously old, yet apparently sound, with new ones on hand ready to supply their places.

"The efforts made on this section to beautify the road by evenly spacing the cross-ties at the expense of leaving some of the slots in the angle plates vacant, thus ignoring the importance of properly locating the joint ties is bad practice, and if it has been indulged in more freely throughout the entire route, the question of receiving the road would have been debatable. Weak joints are no beauties in the eyes of an engineer, for even since railroads invented, the ingenuity of man has been exhausted in fruitless efforts to make a perfectly strong coupling. We have some now fairly so if properly applied, spiked and bolted, and when this is not done, it is a criminal retrogression in track laying. Fortunately this defect is limited, and this being the case, and the only existing fault of construction, I will approve the Section.

"SECTION 2.

"This Section comes up to all the specifications also. It is somewhat of a duplicate of Section 1, both in defects as well as in excellence. Like No. 1, its embankments are splendid. There is one long well constructed trestle bridge on it over the head of Indian River. In this section I have embraced 24 1-10 miles, ending it at Titusville, with my approval as to its construction, overlooking the little defects.

"SECTION 3.

"Begins at Titusville, and ends 20 miles south, near Rockledge. The alignment of this Section seems to be for some obscure purpose strangely circuitous. While the berms of the embankments seem reduced to a minimum, as the terms of the specifications are complied with, I am constrained to receive it.

"SECTION 4.

"Extending from near Rockledge 20 miles to Melbourne. This Section embraces the Eau Gallie bridge, a

well constructed pile and cap trestle, several hundred feet long. The specifications have all been complied within a workmanlike manner, and the section is therefore approved.

"SECTION 5.

"This Section reaches from Melbourne to a point 20 miles southward and is well constructed in every detail, coming squarely up to specifications in a workmanlike manner. Three long well constructed trestle bridges exist on it, one over the San Sebastian River being provided with a "jack knife draw." This Section is approved

"SECTION 6.

"Extending from the Southern limits of Section 5, twenty miles southward to a point 40 miles below Melbourne. This section coming also up to specifications in fine order is approved.

"SECTION 7.

"Extending from the Southern limits of Sec. 6, 20 miles southward to a point 60 miles below Melbourne or 2½ miles of Jensen. This section seems to be thoroughly constructed, coming up to the specifications in every detail, and is therefore approved.

"SECTION 8.

"Extending from a point 2½ miles north of Jensen to about Hobe Sound. The bridge embraced in this section over St. Lucie River is thoroughly constructed. It is approached from the North unfortunately by an 8 degree curve constructed on a trestle which I took special notice of and called on the resident engineer to explain the cause of this high degree of curvature—which he did satisfactorily, pointing out on the ground the difficulties that trammelled him. All specifications having been complied with on this well constructed section it is appproved.

"SECTION 9.

"Extending from about Hobe Sound southward 25 miles to West Palm Beach. On this section opposite to Jupiter inlet I found a bridge of excellent design and construction containing a draw. It being near the ocean I took special notice of its foundation passing under it in a row boat examining the bents and the way they were fastened and secured to the piles. Extra precaution had been taken, not found on other roads to prevent them from slipping and the structure is no doubt secure. At Jupiter, the 60 lb. rails coming all the way from Daytona give out, and in lieu thereof is laid a 40 lb. rail the balance of the way to West Palm Beach which is good enough, but it is soon to be replaced with the regular 60 lb. rails. Two other well constructed trestles, each several hundred feet long, exist on this section south of Jupiter Drawbridge, both of which will be partially filled in as may be seen from the fact that parts of each are temporary work.

"This is the last of the sections, which I likewise approve.

"GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

"Throughout the entire line the road bed struck me as superior in dimensions to any that I have ever inspected in the State, this is in consequence no doubt of its being so well shouldered up and rounded off, a precaution taken against the tropical rains. While the work has all been well done, the last six sections are practically perfect in every detail; except as to the temporary 40 lb. iron on the last section. The curves are all very easy, short and few in number, and the grades are long, level or low. While this comment as to gradients will answer, still undulating gradients and shallow sags adjusted according to the principles of velocity heads as set forth in A. M. Wellington's great work on the Economic Location of Railroads saves money in construction and accelerates the speed of trains after construction, which in turn reduces operating expenses; hence, the putting in of long gradients either rising or level is not first class practice, unless trammelled by local considerations, for strange to say if long shallow sags, that is, sags not over thirty feet deep, and less than about three thousand feet long be filled in on any gradient,

level or otherwise, it is susceptible of mathematical demonstration that the speed of the trains will become reduced, all other conditions being equal. Hence, the money wasted in putting in long even or uniform gradients, will build more miles of railroad for Florida.

"In regard to the specifications requiring that the maximum grade in this road must not exceed 45 feet to the mile, I will respectfully state that the language is intended to express not what is does, but that the "ruling gradients" of the road shall not exceed 45 feet to the mile, for a train that would actually stall on a 45 feet gradient long continued, would ride over a gradient of 100 feet to the mile and more, if it was not too long. Indeed, a train that could just strain up a 45 feet gradient starting at the bottom from a rest would pass up in less time with no extra expenditure of steam if the gradient was sagged which would necessarily increase the uphill ascent of the sag, over 45 feet. This seems strange but it is susceptible of mathematical proof. An engine dragging all it can haul on a dead level at the rate of 50 miles an hour has stored up energy enough to leap 88 75-100 feet up into the air. This 88 75-100 feet is called the velocity head which varies with the speed. In this case it would enable the train to pass over all hills at the rate of ten miles per hour that was three feet lower than the velocity head, by an elevation exactly as high as the velocity head would stall it. Again if an engine had all it could pull up a 45 feet gradient, precisely like conditions would follow, that is, the train would stall on meeting a hill 88 75-100 feet high and float over it if three feet lower, at the rate of ten miles per hour. Now you perceive by this illustration that in the first case a level was the ruling gradient, and the second case 45 feet was, and that they both ruled, although they were both increased by the slants of an intervening hill. Hence, the difficulty of interpreting this specification, which is taken from the old Internal Improvement Act, passed at a time when the science of "velocity heads" was unknown. Now I cannot say a better thing in regard to this road than that the indications are that it can be operated by through trains or trains that will neither stop or put on brakes on or near an ascending gradient; as if the whole route was nearly a dead level, and if there was any grade over 45 feet to the mile short or long it was not apparent.

"It does not appear where the final terminus of this road is to be, but no doubt when the great capitalist and friend of Florida learns that the Florida Keys are islands inclosed in a harbor made by natural submerged breakwater called the Florida Reefs and are therefore, not really exposed to the violence of the outer sea and may be connected with ordinary creosoted trestle work as now existing across Escambia Bay, he may rise in a culminating spirit of enterprise and moor Key West to the mainland.

"Respectfully,

"H. S. DUVAL,
"Engineer."

The bill of H. S. Duval for inspection of this railroad was approved for five hundred dollars ($500.00.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 10, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was presented and adopted by the following vote: Ayes, 4.—Governor Mitchell, Comptroller Bloxham, Attorney General Lamar and Commissioner of Agriculture Wombwell.

Nays, 1.—State Treasurer Collins.

Resolved: That the Treasurer of this Board be and is hereby directed to pay the coupons now on the bonds of the Florida Atlanta and Gulf Central Railroad Company belonging to the (Sinking Fund of such Company bonds held by this Board, including interest on such coupons, and that he hold the amount so paid under the direction of the Board as a part of such Sinking Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 11, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor placed before the Board of Trustees a communication from F. H. Busbee, Esq., of Raleigh, N. C., asking certain question about Sinking Fund of Bonds issued by railroads in Florida under Act of January 6th, 1855, the interest on which bonds had been guaranteed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

After discussion of the letter the Governor prepared and sent the following reply to Mr. Busbee:

"STATE OF FLORIDA,
"EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
"Tallahassee, July 11th, 1894.

"F. H. Busbee, Esq.,
"Raleigh, N. C.

"Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 3d inst., addressed to me as President of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, was duly received, and has been considered by the Board of Trustees; and I am directed by the Board to say that they recognize their duty to inform the holder of an invalid security for which the trust has been pledged and is still liable, as to any facts concerning any part of the fund in which such holder may be interested; but they feel that it is always their right to know what security it is concerning which information is asked. With this view they request that you will inform them what bonds of the Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central R. R. Co. it is you make inquiry in behalf of, giving number and denomination of the same, and if you are not the owner in your own right of such bonds, to state who is such owner.

"Any person claiming such right of a beneficiary of the fund, either as a holder of bonds, coupons, or other legal claim against the fund, should designate clearly his claim, in order the Board may judge of his right to the information asked.

"Very respectfully,

"Governor and Prest. Bd. of Trustees of I. I. Fund."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 16th, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. George P. Raney reported that he had examined the account of Henry Wells, surviving partner of Wells and Randolph, for compensation as State Agents to select lands unde rcontract made with the Governor of Florida by Randolph and Wells in 1851, and that if the account had been properly stated it was a legal claim against the fund, but before it should be paid Mr. Wells should inform the Trustees whether he would settle with the legal representatives of A. M. Randolph.

The Salesman was directed to correspond with Mr. Wells and ascertain what he intended doing in the matter.

The account of Philip Walter for copy of bill filed by Attorneys of Wilson in suit against the Trustees for two 60-100 dollars ($2.60-100) was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHEL,, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 6, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented, allowed and ordered paid:

Floridian Printing Company, for printing for Salesman's Office to September 20th, 1894, five 85-100 dollars.

R. B. Gorman, P. M., for stamped envelopes furnished Salesman's Office, thirty three 50-100 dollars.

E. L. Sibley, for Eyelet Press and Eyelets for Salesman's Office, five dollars.

E. W. Clark, for Letter Press and Seals for Salesman's Office, twelve 20-100 dollars.

The Savannah Morning News, for Letter Heads furnished Salesman's Office January 12th, 1894, fifteen dollars.

C. A. Bryan, for certified copies of bill and plea in case of A. B. Hawkins vs. Trustees I. I. Fund, four dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 22, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following copy of an order or decree made by Thomas Settle, Judge, was ordered spread upon the minutes, and is in words and figures as follows:

"Circuit Court of the United States, 5th Circuit, Northern District of Florida. In Equity.

"Charles P. Greenough, as Administrator, &c., of Francis Vose, *et al.*

vs.

The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, *et als.*

"This cause coming on to be further heard, it is on motion of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, defendants herein, no one objecting thereto, ordered adjudged and decreed as follows:

"1st. That the injunctions heretofore granted herein against the Trustees of said fund be and are vacated as to all future proceedings and actions of the Trustees in the administration of said fund.

"2nd. That the Receiver and Master herein, Aristides Doggett, Esqr., be and is discharged as such Master and Receiver, from further action in the premises, and he is hereby directed to deliver to the Trustees of said fund, on the receipt of their Treasurer all bonds and other assets of said fund, held by him as such Receiver or Master, including those of any "Sinking Fund," and that he file his final accounts as such, without delay for the action of this Court thereon.

"3d. That this cause stand dismissed as to all pending future proceedings of creditors of, and claimants or other persons against said fund, except that all pending petitions as to or on coupons, including that of Francis et al., trustees, and the petition of Samuel A. Swann, for compensation may proceed to a final hearing and disposition herein provided however also that nothing herein shall preclude the right of any holders or holder of bonds of the Tallahassee Railroad Company to file a petition herein claiming that the said trust fund is liable for the payment of the principal of the said bonds and interest due thereon and unpaid or the interest accrued on said bonds or to accrue thereon, and for the settlement of the liability of said fund in respect of said bonds or the interest accruing or to accrue thereon, and the duties of

said Trustees as to said bonds and interest; and provided further that this Court may settle the claim of said Master and Receiver as such for any compensation that may be due him.

"Adjudged and decreed in open court this 11th day of December A. D. 1883.

"(Signed) THOMAS SETTLE.
Judge."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Nov. 29, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The account of Henry Wells for balance due on account of Swamp Land selections under contract of November 8th, which had been referred to Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney for the Trustees and reported as a proper charge against its fund, and the payment of same recommended by him, was presented and ordered paid. The following is a full statement of the account, with power of attorney, and his receipt in full.

"Internal Improvement Fund,

"To Henry Wells, surviving partner of A. M. Randolph, Dr.

"To compensation for selection of Swamp Lands for the State of Florida at the rate of 8 mills per acre, as per contract with the Governor of Fla., of Novr. 8, 1851, for lands embraced in the following patents, viz:

	Acres.
St. Augustine No. 12	29509.75
Same No. 13	216.64
Tallahassee No. 20	9,484.04
Same No. 21	3,186.57
Newnansville No. 12	2,534.59
Same No. 13	15,873.68
Same No. 14	361.18
Tampa No. 22	7,739.77
St. Augustine No. 14	737.87
Same No. 15	867.45
Same No. 16	28,885.00
Same No. 17	14,076.00
Tallahassee No. 22 part.	32,555.57
Tampa No. 24	17,709.29
Same No. 25	58,000.86
St. Augustine No. 18	80.00
Tallahassee No. 23	239.89
Tampa No. 45	80.00
Same No. 46	160.00
Same No. 47 (part)	2,534.00
Newnansville No. 20	160.25
Same No. 21	160.00
St. Augustine No. 23	533.63
Same No. 24	3,550.71
Same No. 26 (part)	8,679.15
Newnansville No. 23 (part)	3,110.45
Gainesville No. 49 (part)	5,097.34
Same No. 50	280.00
Same No. 57	21,983.98
Same No. 58 (part)	4,550.00
Same No. 72	1,501.39
Same No. 79	19,871.40
Same No. 86	236.59
Same No. 89 (part)	170.00
Same No. 93	789.82
Same No. 94	827.30
	296,334.16

amounting, at 8 mills per acre, the sum of $2,370.67-100"

"I, Henry Wells, a citizen of Tallahassee, Florida, and temporarily residing in Washington City, District of Columbia, do hereby constitute and appoint L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida, my agent and attorney to demand, receive and receipt for any moneys that may be found to be due me by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the said State of Florida under the provisions of a contract made with myself and A. M. Randolph by the Governor of the said State of Florida, November 8th, 1851. In Testimony whereof I have affixed my hand and seal this the first day of June, A. D. 1894.

"Signed, sealed and executed
in presence of (Signed) HENRY WELLS, (L. S.)
PAUL E. JOHNSON.
CHARLES J. MURPHY.

October 31st, 1894.

Received of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, two thousand three hundred and seventy and sivty-seven one hundredths ($2,370.67) as payment in full for all claims and demands due Wells and Randolph as agents to select lands for the State of Florida under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, by virtue of all or any contracts made by Henry Wells and A. M. Randolph or either of them with the Government of the State of Florida, November 8th, 1851.

(Signed) HENRY WELLS."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 17, 1894.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An account was presented from the H. & W. B. Drew Company for binding five volumes of patents and one volume of railroad lands, amounting to thirty-six dollars and express charges, ninety cents, making a total of thirty-six 90-100 dollars, and on motion the account was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
Secretary. President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 2, 1895.

The Boaord met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Messrs. Anders, Bell, Lester and Johnson appeared before the Board in reference to the purchase of Lake Iamonia lands under contract heretofore made with the Board and after stating the difficulties under which the proposed purchasers were laboring, asked that the price be reduced to sixty cents per acre, so that they might complete the purchase, as it was impossible for them to raise a larger amount than would be required at that price.

After considering the matter, in connection with the fact that the proposed purchasers were the owners of the lands adjoining the lands which they desired to purchase, the Board decided to reduce the price to sixty cents per acre and directed the Salesman to prepare a conveyance of the land upon the payment of the balance of the purchase money to the Treasurer of the Board.

The following judgment and accounts were ordered paid:

R. W. Williams, Attorney for Charles Edward Lewis, for amount of judgment against the Trustees for certain coupons from bonds numbered 1075, 1233, 1234, 1235 and 1240, issued by the Florida Railroad Company,

amounting to one thousand and one 32-100 dollars. ($1,001 32-100).

J. B. Whitfield, Clerk Supreme Court, for costs in the case of Chas. Edward Lewis vs. Trustees, fifteen 60-100 dollars ($15.60-100).

R. B. Gorman, P. M. for stamped envelopes and stamps for Salesman's Office, thirty-nine 50-100 dollars ($39.50-100.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR. Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 3, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. W. D. Finlayson and Joseph S. White appeared before the Board in relation to the appointment of a Timber Agent for all that portion of the State of Florida lying and being between the principal meridian line of Tallahassee and Range Sixteen, East, and extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the line dividing the State of Florida from the State of Georgia and recommended Mr. McQueen Chaires as a suitable person to be elected as such Agent.

After considering the matter it was

Resolved, That McQueen Chaires be and is hereby elected State Timber Agent for that portion of the State of Florida lying and being between the principal Meridian line of Tallahassee and Range Sixteen (16) East, to hold said office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and that the local agencies heretofore established in Taylor and Lafayette counties, respectively, be and the same are hereby abolished.

Resolved, further, That Mr. McQueen Chaires be required to give bond, as such State Timber Agent, in the sum of one thousand dollars, and that he be required to make monthly reports to the Treasurer of this Board, whether any stumpage has been collected or not, and that when collections are reported that the money so collected shall be remitted to the Treasurer of the Board after deducting twenty (20) per cent commissions, which shall in full compensation for the services of such Agent.

Resolved further, That the State Timber Agent be authorized to receive and receipt for all stumpage due on State lands but no certificate as clearances, or otherwise shall be issued by him as such Agent, in relation to any other lands.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 26, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Thos. C. Hodge. Esqr. appeared before the Board on behalf of he Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company and requested that one hundred thousand acres of land be reserved for the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company on account of its land grant; whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman is hereby directed to reserve for the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad Company, one hundred thousand acres of land embracing in part such patented lands as may be released by the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company out of its present reserve and the balance in unpatented lands that may remain in the drainage territory of

said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company after said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company shall have selected the number of acres to which it is entitled under its drainage contract.

The following resolution was also adopted:

Resolved, That the Salesman be and he is hereby directed to notify the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company that the Trutsees will convey to said Company all the patented lands in its reserve to which it may be entitled under its drainage contract; *Provided,* That said Company may release any portion of the patented lands to which it is entitled and in lieu thereof receive lands from the unpatented lands in its territory when patents are issued therefor.

Resolved further, That the conveyance to said Company will positively be made on the fifteenth day of March next or as soon thereafter as the deeds of conveyance can be prepared and will embrace all the patented lands in its reservation to which it is entitled or so much thereof as shall not have been previously released by said Company.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage stamps and stamped envelopes for Salesman's Office, in November and December, 1894, and January 1895, amounting to forty-five 16-100 dollars.

E. W. Clark, for stationery for Salesman's Office, two dollars.

Jas. H. McKinney, Clerk Supreme Court of the United States, for certified copy of papers including final decree in the Vose case, three 10-100 dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 27, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. Alex St. Clair Abrams appeared before the Board on behalf of the Tavarves, Atlantic and Tampa Bay Railroad Company and stated that the work of constructing said railroad would be commenced within a short time and that twenty-five miles thereof would be completed by January 1st, 1896, if assurances could given by the Board that lands for the first twenty-five miles would be conveyed to said Company under its Legislative land grant. Pending action there on the Board adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 1, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The matter pending when the Board adjourned on the 27th ultimo, was taken up and after due consideration the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Board will convey to the Tavares, Atlantic and Tampa Bay Railroad Company, if the said Company shall have completed twenty-five miles of their road with standard guage and not less than 60 lb. rails, by January 1st, 1896, and provided further that said Company shall then satisfy this Board of the completion of the remaining 95 miles of road before January 1st, 1898, two hundred and fifty thousand acres of the lands that were granted to the State under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, to the said party, as follows:

100,000 acres of the lands already patented to the State.

150,000 acres of the lands not yet patented to the State, but to which the State is entitled to patents under the laws of the United States and the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Be it further resolved, That if by the first of January, 1896, any of the lands now held in reserve for purchasers shall be forfeited to this Board, such lands, not exceeding

100,000 acres, shall be added to the quantity of lands already patented to the State, and the quantity of unpatented lands reduced in the same proportion.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 29, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
William D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Cecil G. Butt and W. W. Russell, Esqr., appeared before the Board and requested that the price of the saw grass lands embraced in the contract with Hon. M. R. Marks, Judge Cecil G. Butt *et al.* be reduced from fifty to twenty-five cents per acre and promised if the price was reduced to proceed without delay to drain and reclaim the land as provided in the contract.

After a full consideration of the question the following resolution was presented:

Resolved, That the price of the saw grass land embraced in the contract with M. R. Marks, C. G. Butt *et al.* be reduced from fifty to thirty-five cents per acre.

Upon the adoption of the resolution the vote was: Ayes, Gov. Mitchell, Treasurer Collins, Atty. Gen. Lamar and Commissioner Wombwell—4. Nays: Comptroller Bloxham—1. The resolution was adopted.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

John G. Collins, State Printer, for 400 copies report of Secretary and Treasurer I. I. Fund for the years 1893 and 1894, Forty 50-100 dollars ($40 50-100).

H. and W. B. Drew Company, for gold seals for Salesman's Office, Two 75-100 dollars ($2.75-100).

J. B. Whitfield, Clerk Supreme Court, for copy constituting transcript in the case of the J., T. & K. W. Ry. Co. Trustees, for the use of Judge Geo. P. Raney, Attorney of the Board, Three Dollars ($3.00-100).

The matter of the coupons held by R. W. Williams, Attorney for Edward Lewis, which were not embraced in the suit, was taken up and referred to the attorneys of the Board, Judge Geo. P. Raney and Hon. F. T. Myers.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 10, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary presented the following resolution adopted by the House of Representatives, and he was directed to send the subjoined reply:

"House of Representatives, Tallahassee. Fla.,
"April 5th, 1895.

"Hon. W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secty. I. I. Board.

"Sir:

"Please find herein copy of Resolution adopted by the House of Representatives, Florida Legislature.

"Very Respectfully,
"WM. FORSYTH BYNUM,
"Chief Clerk."

"By Mr. Hendry, of Lee.

"House Resolution No. 31.

"Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida, That the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund be and are hereby requested, at the earliest practicable day, to report officially to this body the result of its contract with the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company for draining and reclaiming the swamp and overflowed lands of the Kissimmee river and valley, and the lakes contributing to said river; the lands adjacent to Lakes Okeechobee

and Hickpochee and the valley of the Caloosahatchie River, and whether or not their contract has been fully complied with, and whether or not there is any contract or negotiations pending looking to the final draining and reclaiming of the lands and territory above mentioned. That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

"Which was read and adopted."

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 10th, 1895.

"Hon. W. S. Jennings,

"Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir:—In response to the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 5th inst., asking for information as to the drainage contracts entered into with the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and other information pertaining thereto, I am directed by the Board to make the following report:

"On the 31st day of January, A. D. 1881, an agreement was entered into by and between Hamilton Disston and others and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, for the purpose of drainage and reclamation of the swamp and overflowed lands lying south of Township twenty-four and East of Peace Creek.

"On March 8th, 1881, the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company was chartered by a Special Act of the Legislature and on September 1st, 1881, an "agreement was entered into substituting said Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company for Hamilton Disston and others in the contract of drainage." This contract embracing all the swamp and overflowed land south of Township twenty-four and East of Peace Creek, stipulated that the drainage company should have the alternate sections comprising one half of the lands which may be reclaimed and thus rendered fit for cultivation" excepting school lands.

"On August 17th, 1888, the contract between the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company and the Trustees was amended under authority of the Act of the Legislature of 1887, and an agreement

between the parties entered into, changing the contract. This contract provided that "the drainage reserve of said Company shall be reduced so as to secure to said Company a total acreage of two million acres, including lands heretofore conveyed to said Company, to be selected by said Company in a body, as near as may be of alternate sections within the reserve heretofore held for said Company, under its contract with the Trustees."

"It further provided that the Trustees should convey to said company so much of said lands, to be selected and reserved as aforesaid, as should be earned by said Company at the rate of an acre of land for each twenty-five cents of expenditure.

"The terms of the contract as amended, including the requirement of an expenditure of twenty-five cents for each acre of land, having been complied with as evidenced by the accounts submitted to and approved by the Board, the Company is entitled to receive the remainder of the two million acres of land to which it was limited under the amended contract, and said contract terminates by its own terms.

'There is no existing "contract or negotiations pending looking to the final drainage and reclamation of the lands and territory," mentioned in the resolution of the 5th inst.

"Respectfully submitted,

"W. M McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida."

The following bills were ordered paid:

Floridian Printing Company, for printing, &c., for Salesman's Office in December 1894, and January and March 1895, aggregating twenty one 58-100 dollars. ($21 58-100.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 17, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was read and adopted:

Resolved, That the following minimum rates for stumpage on State lands be and the same are hereby established and the State Timber Agent is authorized to demand and receive the same:

For all square cedar timber, or cedar timber that, in the judgment of the Timber Agent, could be squared, twenty-five (25) cents for each log, provided that the State Timber Agent shall be and is hereby authorized to establish and collect an increased rate whenever in his judgment the Timber is worth more than the minimum rate hereinbefore stated.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 20, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wembwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. F. A. Hendry appeared before the Board and requested that some action be taking looking to the closing up of the canal leading from Lake Hickpochee to the Caloosahatchie River at a point near the western boundary of said Lake to protect the lands adjacent to the Caloosahatchie River from excessive overflow during

the rainy season. After considering the matter, the Secretary of the Board was directed to send the following communications:

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 20, 1895.

"Capt. J. F. Menge, Myers, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—Hon. F. A. Hendry has made application to the Board of Trustees to close the canal running from Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchie. He thinks that the closing of the canal near the western boundary of Lake Hickpochee would be the most feasible and lead to better results in the protection of the Caloosahatchie valley during and following the rainy season.

"I have been directed to address you, asking (in case the drainage company failed to do the work) what you would take the contract for, and in what time you could complete the work.

"An early answer will greatly oblige.

"Yours very truly,
W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secy. Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of Florida."

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 20, 1895.

"Hamilton Disston, Esq.,
"President Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Co.,
"Philadelphia, Pa.

"Dear Sir:—On the 20th inst. Hon. F. A. Hendry appeared before the Board of Trustees I. I. Fund and urgently asked that the Board intervene and have the canal from Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchie filled in with an embankment sufficient to prevent the waters of Okeechobee and Hickpochee from flowing into the Caloosahatchie river. Mr. Hendry urged prompt action as the rainy season would soon be upon them, and these waters added to the natural rainfall collecting from the water shed would overflow the valley to the great detriment of the settlers along said valley.

"His application was similar to that contained in a petition to this Board under date of May 8, 1890, from the residents of Lee and DeSoto counties. A copy of that petition was furnished the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company, and on May 23,

1890, it was answered by the Superintendent and Engineer of the Company, Col. J. M. Kreamer, agreeing to comply with the petition of the citizens of Lee and De-Soto counties if the charges for said work should be considered and allowed as a part of the work in accordance with the drainage contract. The Board accepted the proposition of the Company.

"In order that you may have a clear understanding of the matter, I beg to enclose herewith the report of the proceedings of the Board for that year.

"By referring to said report from page 53 to page 62 you will have a full statement of the case. The Board is very solicitous that your company will comply at once as it is felt that such was the agreement in 1890.

"Unless your company will comply and agree to close the canal in the next sixty days the Board will feel it to be its duty to have it done by others at the expense of your company.

"It is hoped that a prompt consideration will be given the matter and your conclusions given the Board within the next ten days.

"Very truly,
"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 22, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary of the Board presented the following resolution which was adopted by the House of Representatives on the 18th inst.

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Internal Improvement is hereby requested to furnish to this House the number of acres of land that has been deeded to the East Coast Land Company by the State from the incorporation of said Company to date and also the amount of land now held up for said Company."

In compliance with said resolution the Secretary of the Board was directed to submit a communication which is in words and figures as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 22, 1895.

"Hon. W. S. Jennings,

"Speaker of the House of Representatives.

"Sir:—In response to the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 18th inst., I am directed by the Board to submit the following report:

"The Legislature of 1885 passed an act, Chapter 3641, Laws of Florida, granting lands to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, which provides:

"1. That the State of Florida hereby grants to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company a sufficiency of land to make up the deficiency of the grants heretofore made to it of 3,840 acres per mile, caused by and on account of Spanish and other grants contiguous, and the water of the Atlantic Ocean adjacent to it on the east interfering, the said deficiency to be determined by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and the amount found to be due said Company to be selected by said Company from any even and odd numbered sections lying nearest to its line of improvements, not to exceed ten miles, for making navigable for an extended commerce at all seasons and stages of water the lagoons and creeks and rivers, for their whole length, by dredging the shallow places or oyster and sand bars, which now prevent it: *Provided,* That the said Company, for and in consideration of the grant of lands made in this bill, shall never charge the State for any freight transportation over said canal, or for the passage of State Troops in time of public danger or when ordered out by the Governor.

"2. That the deficiency of lands hereby granted to said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company

shall be selected from lands granted to the State of Florida by the United States under the Act of Congress, September 28th, 1850, and which lie nearest to its improvements. *Provided,* The State of Florida shall have a sufficient quantity of lands for said purpose not heretofore granted to other corporation; And *provided,* That the State of Florida shall not be in any wise liable to cure any defects in the titles to lands hereby granted; and this grant of land is made expressly subject to the full satisfaction of all lands granted previously to other corporations which now are, or may hereafter become, perfected; but nothing herein shall be construed to mean the said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company shall be debarred of the rights to any lands which may now or hereafter be forfeited to the State by corporations, or from other sources, and lying within the limits aforesaid; And *provided further,* That any actual settler, who now resides on land hereafter selected by virtue of this act, may purchase any of said lands granted by this act, not to exceed one hundred and sixty (160) acres, at such schedule rates or prices, and under such rules and regulations as now are, or hereafter may be established by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, the money, however, to be paid for such lands shall inure to said company upon the construction of said improvement to a point or line opposite to the land so settled upon and purchased.

"3. That upon the filing with the Secretary of State, by said canal company, the line of their route from the northeast end of Biscayne Bay to Key West, or of ten miles or more of said route, the trustees shall withdraw from sale, at the election of said company or its president, the odd and even numbered sections of lands on the mainland for six miles distant from the shore thereof and opposite the route so filed.'

"In 1889, the Legislature passed an act, Chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, confirming the land grant made to said company, 1885, and declaring the manner of conveying lands to said company, an dsections 1 and 4 of said act provide 'that the grant of lands made to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company by section one (1) of an act entitled "An Act to grant lands to the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Com-

pany, to make up deficiencies along its present and proposed extended line, and for the establishment of telegraph and telephone lines," approved February 6, 1885, be and the same is hereby confirmed to the said company, at the rate of thirty-eight hundred and forty (3840) acres of land per mile for the entire distance from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay, And

"That it shall be the duty of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and they are hereby required, to convey to the said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, from time to time as its work progresses, thirty-eight hundred and forty (3840) acres per mile of the lands now held in reserve for the said company for each section of six (6) miles of the canals and waterways between St. Augustine and Biscayne Bay, which shall be found upon inspection by the engineer of the said board to be in conformity with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of this act, said lands to be the even and odd numbered sections which lie nearest to the line of the route of its canals and waterways: *Provided,* That no deed shall be made to the said company for any sections of said canals and waterways for a distance of one hundred and two (102) miles from mile twenty-four (24) to mile one hundred and twenty-six (126) south from St. Augustine, until the said canal and waterway shall be constructed through the whole of the divide separating Matanzas river on the North and Halifax river on the South, in accordance with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of this act; And *Provided,* That no conveyance of any of the lands so reserved shall be made by the said Trustees to the company for any portion of the said canals and waterways between St. Augustine and Biscayne Bay, which shall remain uncompleted, in accordance with said specifications, at the end of five (5) years from the 1st day of June, A. D. 1889; And provided further, That the said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company shall accept the provisions of this act within sixty days after it shall be approved by the Governor, and file a notice of such acceptance with the said Trustees, which acceptance shall be held to constitute a contract between the State of Florida and the

Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company in accordance with the provisions of this act.

"The Board of Trustees having under consideration the land grant to said company on March 26, 1889, adopted the following resolution:

"'Whereas, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund have been requested by the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company to determine whether said company, under its legislative land grant of February 6, 1885, will be entitled to lands for the entire distance between the terminal points of its canal, including the natural waterways already navigable with which it will connect, or only to lands for the mileage of actual work done in opening channels over flats and shoals, widening and deepening creeks and rivers and cutting out land divides between such navigable waterways so as to connect them.

"'Be it resolved, That it is the opinion of this board that said canal company will be entitled, when such canal is constructed in accordance with its character, to such lands as may be earned by actual construction, and that in computing the mileage of constructed canal for the purpose of makinig a conveyance of lands to said canal company on account of construction, natural waterways, or portions thereof, already affording navigable capacity equal to that of the proposed canal were not intended to be included.'

"In compliance with the acts of the Legislature and resolutions of the board, there has been an aggregate of 475,561.45 acres of land conveyed to said company.

"No resolution authorizing the conyenance of land to the said company on account of the land grant has been passed by the board since August 20, 1890.

"On April 20, 1891, the board directed me to write to the president of said company and to say 'that in the opinion of the trustees the grant to your company must be construed in its entirety, in so far as it relates to the object for which the Legislature made such a generous grant.

"'The intention of the Legislature was to secure a continuous waterway from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay for the navigation of such boats and vessels as would come within the requirements of the character of

your company, and it is well known that the most important and essential part of the work to be done by your company is the divide to connect the Matanzas with the Halifax River. This work your company has promised for years to perform, and so far there is no evidence in the possession of the board that that part of the work is being prosecuted, or that it will be done at any time in the near future. The object for which the land grant was made will be defeated if this very important work is not completed. The Trustees have already conveyed to your company, in strict compliance with the act of the Legislature, a large quantity of land, and it is well known that a greater portion of the land so conveyed was to cover the grant made to your company for waterways already navigable in their natural condition.

"'It appears to the Board that the Legislature intended that the land given for such waterways should be deemed a part of the consideration for the performance of the more difficult portion of the work of constructing a canal. The progress made by your company is not such as would in the opinion of the Trustees, make it proper to pay over any moneys received for lands in its reserve, or to convey more lands, and it is deemed to be the duty of the Trustees to use every legitimate means to insure a completion of the canal, so that the people may receive the full benefit of the grant of land made to your company. That the people of the State, and especially those residing in the vicinity of the proposed canal, have rights that should be carefully guarded by the Trustees, there can be no doubt, and it is hoped and expected that the work of construction will be resumed by your company and pushed with such zeal as will insure a completion of the work at any early day."

"The Legislature of 1893 passed an Act, Chapter 4284, laws of Florida, amending Section 4 of the act of 1889, Chapter 3995, laws of Florida, so as to read as follows:

"That it shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and they are hereby required to convey to the said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, from time to time as its work progresses, thirty-eight hundred and forty (3840) acres per mile of the lands now held in reserve for said company for each section of six (6) miles

of the canals and waterways between St. Augustine and Biscayne Bay, which shall be found upon inspection by the Engineer of the said Board to be in conformity with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of this act, said lands to be the even and odd numbered sections which lie nearest to the line of the route of its canals and waterways: *Provided,* That no deed shall be made to the said company for any sections of said canals and waterways for a distance of one hundred and two (102) miles from mile twenty-four (24) to mile one hundred and twenty-six (126) south from St. Augustine until the said canal and waterway shall be constructed through the whole of the divide separating Matanzas river on the north and Halifax river on the south, in accordance with the specifications prescribed in section three (3) of this act; and, *Provided further,* That no conveyance of any lands so reserved shall be made by the said Trustees to the said company for any portion of the said canals and waterways between St. Augustine and Biscayne Bay, which shall remain uncompleted, in accordance with said specifications, at the end of four (4) years from the first day of June A. D. 1893; and *Provided further,* That the said Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company shall accept the provisions of this act within sixty (60) days after it shall be approved by the Governor and file a notice of such acceptance with the said Trustees, which acceptance shall be held to constitute a contract between the State of Florida and the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company in accordance with the provisions of this act.'

"The provisions of the different acts of the Legislature relative to the land grant to said company and the views of the Board as to certain features thereof, are given so that the members of the Legislature may be advised as to the statutes under which the lands were and are to be conveyed to said company and the reason why the Board declines to make further conveynace of land to said company.

"The lands embraced in the territory covered by the land grant to said company which have not been conveyed,

approximate 600,000 acres of patented and 400,000 acres of State selections not yet patented to the State.

"Respectfully submitted,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 2, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The application of R. W. Williams on behalf of his client, Edward Lewis, for the payment of certain coupons, amounting to two hundred dollars, was taken up and considered and the Secretary of the Board was directed to send a copy of the following communication to Hon. F. T. Myers, and a copy also to Judge Geo. P. Raney:

"Dear Sir:—

"I am directed by the Board of Trustees to ask if you think it advisible by the Board to withhold the payment of the remaining $200.00 worth of coupons held by Hon. R. W. Williams for his client—the same being in the condition of those decided adversely to the Board in the recent decision of our Supreme Court?

"Awaiting your reply, I have the honor to remain,

"Very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secy. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 18, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. E. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication from Hon. M. R. Marks was presented to the Board:

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 10, 1895.

"Hon. H. L. Mitchell,

"Gov. and Pres. of Board of Internal Imp. Fund.

"Dear Sir: I submit for the consideration of your honorable body, the following facts:

"1st. For twenty-five years I have devoted my entire time to the sale and developing of the public lands of this State and the protecting of same against depredation and fraud.

"1st. When Stedwell and his carpet bag crew attempted to steal with Gleason the finest selection of State lands; I went to New York, at my own expense and informed Mr. Vose of their actions, and he at once began suit to stop this steal.

2nd. When Linderman and Coreal, Agents of Disston, came to Florida, I at my own expense carried them over land from Sanford to Orlando, thence to Kissimmee, or where Kissimmee now is, thence down the Kissimmee River through Okeechobee to Ft. Myers, and by arguments, facts and prospects ahead, was in a manner instrumental in obtaining the drainage contract with Mr. Disston.

"After the contract was executed, I went to Phila. at my own expense and with Linderman and Coreal induced by argument to Mr. Disston, the necessity of buying 4,000,000 acres to clear the Vose mortgage.

"I selected most of this 4,000,000 acres, virtuallyy acting in the interest of the State.

"I settled 140 homestead claims for the "Squatter" on the lands of the State, sold to Mr. Disston.

"I have laid off and largely developed the towns of Sanford, Maitland, Winter Park, Orlando and Tarpon Springs and by expensive advertising for many years, have suc-

ceeded in assisting to make all of these places large paying taxable property.

"For all this work, I have never received, asked or desired one cent of remuneration, but several years ago I succeeded by borrowing money an dobtaining from your honorable body an option on 112,000 acres of the Sebastian saw-grass tract and have so paid into the Treasury $..... and will soon pay the balance under the amended contract.

"Also this action of mine was the direct cause of selling the school sections in this body for cash.

"Thus by my energy and hard work I have placed in the Treasury quite a nice little sum of money and all at my own expense.

"I do not make a charge against your Board; I am no suppliant for charity and but for the unprecedented blizzard that has swept me financially from the face of the earth robbing me not only of all I possessed in the line of groves but for the time my occupation.

"Under all these facts and circumstances, I feel that it is not asking too much, to ask your honorable body to consider the fairness and justice of paying me 10 per cent on the sale of the 112,000 acres last sold. With this small sum I will be placed by the State in a position by strict economy to assist in developing said 112,000 acres and within a few years return to the State an hundred fold for the generosity and recognition of my services in the sale.

"Othe rmen have been generously and rightly paid for their services and I hope and believe your Hon. Board will deal generously and fairly with me.

"Very Respt. Your Obt. Servant,

"M. R. MARKS."

The Secretary was directed to make the following reply to the foregoing communiaction:

"Tallhaassee, Fla., May 18, 1895.

"Hon. M .R. Marks.

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir: In response to your esteemed favor of the 10th ult. I am directed by the Board of Trustees to say that they fully appreciate the valuable services that you have rendered to the State during the past twenty-five years in making known the wonderful resources and healthfulness of our fair State, and the great ability and zeal that you have shown in attracting immigrants, build-

ing up settlements and locating manufacturing and other enterprises in our midst.

The citizens of Florida will ever be grateful to you for the untiring energy with which you have always sought to foster every enterprise that would be beneficial to the State and contribute to the well being of her citizens. That you have performed these services at great personal sacrifice to yourself, there can be no doubt, and it would afford the Board of Trustees great pleasure to compensate you, at least in part, for the time and money used by you, in your efforts to promote the best interests of the State; but unfortunately, the means of doing so are not at the command of the Board for that purpose.

The Act of the Legislature of 1855, which created the Board of Trustees, and vested the lands in trust, states the purposes to which the lands can be applied, and the Board is limited by the Act to the payment of the expenses of administering the trust, and to the conveyance of lands for drainage and reclamation.

While the services performed by you were in the interest of the State and assisted very much in its material progress, they were not performed under any contract, agreement or understanding with the Board of Trustees, and it is evident that such services could not be paid for out of funds held in trust for other specific purposes.

The Trustees deplore the misfortune that has deprived you at least temporarily of the revenue from your orange groves and desire in this connection to express the deepest sympathy for you and the hope that in the exercise of your well known ability and determination you may be rewarded, at an early day, with an abundant increase that will enable you to spend many years in the future amid that peace and plenty to which you are so greatly entitled.

With assurances of the highest esteem, I am,

Yours very truly,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL,
President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 1, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Senator Williamson appeared before the Board on behalf of the Florida Orange Canal and Transit Company, formerly the Orange Canal and Transit Company, and asked what the work of said company in connecting the waters of Lake Isala Apopka in Citrus County with the Withlacoochee River be inspected, and that lands be given to said Company under Chapter 3823, Laws of Florida, as amended by the Act of 1895.

Whereupon, it was ordered that Col. John Bradford be appointed to inspect said work and report thereon to this Board.

The following report from Louis C. Massey, Attorney for the Apopka Canal Company, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, May 13, 1895.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees
of the Internal Improvement Fund
of the State of Florida.

"Gentlemen: I am directed by the Apopka Canal Company to report to you that the Company has expended or caused to be expended in drainage and reclamation over thirty thousand dollars before March 31, 1894, as required by its bond to your Honorable body dated March 31, 1891. Since that date it has paid out or caused to be paid out a further sum sufficient to make the total expenditure fifty-nine thousand dollars, or twenty-nine thousand in excess of its contract.

"The *bona fides* of the expenditure to the extent of thirty thousand dollars is subject under the contract to the approval of the State Engineer. The accounts and vouchers will be at his service or at yours at such time and place as your Honorable body shall direct them to be produced.

"Yours respectfully,

"LOUIS C. MASSEY,
"Atty. for Apopka Canal Co."

It was ordered that Col. John Bradford be employed as the Engineer to examine and report upon the work of the Apopka Canal Company, and that the statement of expenditures by said Company be filed with his report when made to the Board.

The following bills were ordered paid:

Thomas Palmer, Atty., for abstract of title, fifteen dollars.

Floridian Printing Co., for blank deeds for Salesman's office, Eight 90-100 dollars.

R. B. Gorman, P. M., for postage stamps and envelopes for Salesman's office, Fifty-five 34-100 dollars.

J. B. Whitfield, Clerk Supreme Court, for copies of papers furnished *in re* J. T. & K. W. Ry. Co. vs. Trustees &c., Five 40-100 Dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 25, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Cecil G. Butt and W. W. Russell appeared before the Board *in re* the purchase and reclamation of the St. Sebastian saw grass lands under the contract of December 27th, 1890, and asked the Board to accept ten thousand dollars in addition to the twenty thousand dollars heretofore paid, in full payment of the purchase money for said land, as upon investigation it was ascertained that a large portion of the lands was covered by the waters of a permanent lake.

After due consideration it was

Resolved, That, upon the payment of Thirteen thousand dollars, in cash, to the Treasurer of the Board, the Salesman be and he is hereby directed to issue deed of convey-

ance to Anthony O. Russell in accordance with the agreement this day presented to the Board by and under which the said Anthony O. Russell succeeds Cecil G. Butt, W. L. Palmer and Matthew R. Marks in the contract of December 27th, 1890.

The agreement this day presented to the Board by Judge Cecil G. Butt and W. W. Russell is in words and figures as follows:

"This indenture of agreement made and entered into this the twelfth day of April A. D. 1895, between Matthew R. Marks, Cecil G. Butt and Willis L. Palmer, Trustees, of the County of Orange and State of Florida, of the one part and Anthony O. Russell of the County of Hamilton and State of Ohio of the other part, witnesseth: That the said parties of the first part as Trustees for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to them in hand paid and for other good and sufficient considerations have this day bargained and sold and by these presents do hereby convey to the said Anthony O. Russell, and to his assigns, heirs and personal representatives all right, title and interest which accrued to us under a certain agreement made and entered into on the 27th day of December 1890 between Francis P. Fleming, Governor of the State of Florida, William D. Bloxham, Comptroller, Frank J. Pons, Treasurer, William B. Lamar, Attorney General and Lucius B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida and by virtue of their said offices the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of the first part and Matthew R. Marks, Cecil G. Butt and Willis L. Palmer of the county of Orange and State of Florida, parties of the second part, meaning hereby to convey to the said Anthony O. Russell all right, title and interest which accrued to us or which was to accrue to us in future as Trustees or individuals under said agreement before mentioned or under any extensions of said agreement. Meaning hereby to relinquish any claim which we may have as Trustees or individuals to the following described tracts or parcels of land embraced in the agreement and the extensions thereof before mentioned. Said land being described as follows to wit: Township Thirty and Thirty-one South of Range Thirty-six East and townships thirty-one and thirty-two South of Range Thirty-seven East, Township Thirty-two South of Range thirty-six East, with the exception of the

sixteenth section in each and every township. Meaning by this conveyance and agreement to authorize the said Trustees as aforesaid to treat with the said Anthony O. Russell as the assignee of all rights, title and interests which accrued to us as trustees or as individuals under and by virtue of said agreement. All of our cestui qui trustents having agreed to these conditions and have authorized us to make this conveyance. Given under our hands and seals this the 12th day of April, A. D. 1895.

CECIL G. BUTT. (Seal) Trustee.
W. L. PALMER, (Seal) Trustee.
MATTHEW R. MARKS. (Seal) Trustee.

Signed, sealed
and delivered
in presence of
GEO. R. NEWELL.
DICK MARKS.
Signed, sealed and delivered
as to M. R. Marks in presence of
B. H. PALMER.
L. G. STARBUK.

State of Florida. }
County of Leon. }

Before the undersigned a Notary Public for the State of Florida, personally came Matthew R. Marks, to me well known, who acknowledged that he signed the foregoing agreeemnt and conveyance for the purposes therein expressed. Given under my hand and seal at Tallahassee, this the 12th day of April, 1895.

L. G. STARBUCK,
Notary Public.

State of Florida. }
County of Orange. }

Before the undersigned, a Notary Public, personally came Cecil G. Butt and Willias L. Palmer, to me well known who acknowledged that they signed the foregoing agreement and conveyance for the purposes therein expressed. Given under my hand and seal at Orlando.

GEO. R. NEWELL,
Notary Public State of Florida.

The following reports of Col. John Bradford, State Engineer, were presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., June 24, 1895.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.,

"Sirs: According to your instructions I have examined the canal of the Orange Canal & Transit Co., which extends from a point near Floral City on Lake Isala Apopka to a point on the Withlacoochee River. This Canal is three and a half ($3\frac{1}{2}$) miles long measured by scale on the land map, and is of such capacity as to be fit to be navigated by the boats doing business thereon. The waters are very low at present in all that section, but I am credibly informed that the steamboat Grey Eagle, the main boat of the canal which draws thirty inches of water took a load of freight through the canal twenty days ago. In addition to the work of the canal the Company has constructed about two hundred feet of difficult jetty work near Panasoffkee.

Respectfully Submitted,

JNO. BRADFORD,
State Engineer.

"Tallahassee, Fla., June 24, 1895.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.,

"Sirs: Pursuant to your instructions I have examined the books, accounts and vouchers as presented by Mr. Lemuel H. Davis of the Apopka Canal Co. From them I find that there has been expended from March 31, 1891 to March 31, 1894, the sum of $56,529.14. After deducting from this sum amounts to the amount of $8,161.13, as not properly belonging to drainage and reclamation account, it leaves the amount $48,368.01 as having been expended in drainage and reclamation. Vouchers were shown whenever called for, and affidavits as to correctness of accounts offered by both Mr. Davis and the company's engineer, J. O. Fries, but were not required. In addition to the above the books show an expenditure of $12,430.88 since March 31, 1894, much of which was for drainage and reclamation.

"Although not instructed by your Hon. Board to do so I examined much of the work done and find the capacity of the canal largely increased by widening and by grading its bottom. A large number of subsidiary ditches have been cut and old ones cleaned out, reported by the company's engineer to be 27 miles of ditches from three to

nine feet wide. The company has a small force still engaged in improving the work.

"I am most respectfully

"Your obt. svt.,

"JNO. BRADFORD,

"State Engineer."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 27, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Geo. P. Raney appeared before the Board and presented a decree of the U. S. Circuit Court, Southern District of Florida, which is in words and figures as follows:

"U. S. Circuit Court, Southern District of Florida.
In Equity.

"Charles P. Greenough, Admr. of Estate of Francis Vose.
vs.
Trustees Internal Improvement Funds of the State of Florida.

"In the matter of the Petition of Frederic Pasco, as Executor of the last will and testament of Aristides Doggett.

"This cause came on to be heard upon the petition of said Pasco as said Executor, praying instructions as to the disposition to be made of the bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company and the Tallahassee Railroad Company therein described, there being one hundred and twenty-six of said bonds of the aggregate face value of one hundred and three thousand dollars; and praying

also compensation for the custody and preservation of such bonds, and the same was argued by counsel for the petitioner and for the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund; Now thereupon it is ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said Trustees do pay the said petitioner the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars as compensation for the custody and preservation of such bonds and the coupons thereto attached, and it is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that upon the payment of such sum of $150.00 to such petitioner that he do turn over and deliver to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, or to their Treasurer, or to John C. Cooper and Geo. P. Raney, Solicitors of such Trustees, all such bonds and coupons.

"It is further ordered that the said Trustees do pay the costs of this proceeding to be taxed by the Clerk.

"Done and ordered in open Court this 26th day of June A. D. 1895.

"JAMES W. LOCKE,
"Judge."

"Endorsed.

"U. S. Circuit Court, Sou. Dist. of Fla., Chas. P. Greenough, Admr. Est. Francis Vose vs. Trustees I. I. Fund. Order.

"Filed June 26, '95. N. A. Greening, D. C.

"A true copy.

"Attest:

"N. A. GREENING,
"Deputy Clerk."

(SEAL)
U. S. Circuit Ct.
South. Dist,
Florida.

The following communications were read and referred to Judge Geo. P. Raney, Attorney, to investigate the subject matter and advise the Board as to their powers in the premises:

"Philadelphia, May 1st, 1895.

"Mr. Wm. M. McIntosh, Jr.,
"Secy., Board of I. I. Fund,
"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir: Replying to your favor of 22nd inst. in reference to the request of the Hon. F. A. Hendry to have

the canals west of Lake Okeechobee and Hickpochee filled in with embankments to prevent the waters of Okeechobee and Hickpochee from flowing into the Callosahatchie river.

"It has always been my desire to cheerfully co-operate with the Board of I. I. in all matters of mutual interest, but after a careful review of the situation I am free to assert that should the canals leading from Okeechobee and Hickpochee be closed by embankments or otherwise, the surface of these large lakes would soon return to their normal level and the entire Hickpochee and Okeechobee marsh would again be permanently inundated.

"The communication presented to the Board in May of 1890 embraced a comprehensive scheme of extensive levees and dikes bordering lakes Hichpochee and Okeechobee and the closing of the canals by gates in order to control the flow of water at will. This system entailed an expenditure largely in excess of the amount necessary for the Company to complete its contract with the State.

"Willingly responding, however, to the petition of May 9th, we constructed a canal southwest from Okeechobee and established a route for an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean on the East in order to afford all the relief possible; and in addition to this we set about organizing a large Company to convert the lands near Hichpochee and Okeechobee into extensive sugar and rice plantations, in the development of which it would be necessary to engage in a very extensive and costly system of dikes, canals, ditches and gates to control the inflow of water for irrigation and other purposes. I am confident that we will yet be able to carry this scheme successfully, but every condition for the past several years has had a tendency to repel capital from sugar and rice ventures, and we to-day suffer equally with Louisiana in this direction. I look for a renewed interest in this direction, and am sanguine that we will soon have the satisfaction of working this great plantation scheme out on the lines originally intended; And that we will see the great stretches of reclaimed land adjacent Okeechobee brought into profitable cultivation.

"I beg to present a few brief extracts from letters of Capt. J. F. Menge, who has been in charge of our dredges operating in the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee since 1881. Capt. Menge has the honor to be closely connected with Capt. Hendry, and has had our hearty endorsement and

confidence through all the years over which our Company operations extended.

"I cite these extracts from Capt. Menge's letter in order to clearly demonstrate that had it not been for the phenomenal storm of Sept. 25 and 26 of 1894, no ill effect could have been felt on the upper Caloosahatchie river from high water arising in the Okeechobee region. It is also very palpable that had Lake Okeechobee last September been in its normal state as we found it in 1881, and the marshes submerged and surcharged as they would have been at the wind up of the rainy season in September, that the tremendous additional precipitation of ten or twelve inches of rainfall on Sept. 25 and 26th would have caused an inundation of the Caloosahatchie valley exceeding in force and destructiveness the phenomenal overflow that occurred in 1877.

"And the residents of the Kissimmee and Caloosahatchee regions are to be congratulated on the immunity they enjoyed against the disastrous effect of the great September storm, and which I am happy to state was entirely due to the protection afforded by the great work of reclamation effected by our Company.

"The great lakes at the head of the Kissimmee Valley were under such control that their surface did not reach normal level by several feet and the valuable town and plantation property adjacent was not injured by high water.

"Due to the reduced level of lake Okeechobee there was no time during or subsequent the storm when its great volume was not fully confined within its new margins and at no time did the waters of Okeechobee overflow the bordering lands.

"In confirmation of these statements I submit the following from Capt. Menge, and in this connection I wish to call your attention to the condition of the marshes adjacent lakes Hichpochee and Okeechobee at the wind up of the rainy season, and immediately prior to the disastrous storm of Sept. 25 and 26th.

"On Sept. 23rd, 1894, Captain Menge wrote: 'I could not get any steamboat through the canals, and had to abandon my trip to Ft. Bassenger; there was only sixteen inches of water in the canal west of Hichpochee, there was seven feet when we cut it. The surface of the marsh is from 4 to 5½ feet above the water in the canals from

Lake Flirt up to L. Okeechobee. The cattle feed all around Lake Hichpochee, and turkey, deer and hogs on Lake Okeechobee.

" 'Lake Okeechobee must be 7 feet lower than when we tapped it in 1882.' At that time the ordinary rainy season was over and a precipitation greater than the average rainfall had been the result. And had the rainy period wound up in the usual manner it is very evident that the upper Caloosahatchie region would not nor could not have suffered in any degree from the waters of Okeechobee.

"From Capt. Menge's statement and other reports we know that late in September of 1894 after the rains were naturally exhausted we had in the Okeechobee basin a great natural reservoir covering an area of 1000 square miles and seven feet deep which had to be filled before the waters of Okeechobee could seriously affect the surrounding country, and notwithstanding the phenomenal downpour and the inflow from the great Kissimmee water shed to the North, etc. This great natural reservoir was of such magnificent capacity that it was fully capable of meeting the emergency.

"On Oct. 7th, after the full effect of the storm had been ascertained Captain Menge writes:—'We had a very heavy storm here. The marginal lands about Ft. Thomson are under water. This time it was not from lake Okeechobee for the water ran up stream by Ft. Thomson. I have not learned anything from Okeechobee since the storm, but I cannot believe it is up to its normal level for it was 7 feet below it just before the storm.

" 'I am thinking of going to Okeechobee in a few days and will give you a report on my return.'

"Oct. 22nd. Captain Menge writes:—'Have just returned from Okeechobee. The lake is over 3 feet below normal level and the banks of the lake from 2½ to 3 feet above the surface of the lake and the south canal had a 2½ miles current emptying into the lake.

"I wrote you on 7th that the water run up stream by Ft. Thomson for 2½ days, this is one time that Okeechobee did not do it.'

"From the above it will be seen that during the storm and for a month thereafter instead of the waters of Okeechobee flowing over the marsh and into the upper Caloosa valley that the waters of the great marsh bordering Lake

Okeechobee were actually flowing into Lake Okeechobee and afforded relief to the upper Caloosa country.

"On Nov. 2nd, a few days later Captain Menge wrote: 'Water will soon be within the banks at Thomson.'

"On Nov. 13th he wrote:—'Water is in the banks at Ft. Thomson. Lake Hichpochee has fallen six inches and Lake Okeechobee risen one inch since my report of 22nd of Oct. and is now on a stand.'

"Subsequent letters show a rapid and continued improvement in the condition. There is no necessity to follow the record further.

"The above record clearly shows that the only waters which could have reached the upper Caloosa country from L. Okeechobee must have been through the canals leading from Okeechobee to Hicpochee, and that no water came from the lake proper over its low margins, which was always the case prior to lowering the lake surface.

"The lake margin that formerly fed the Caloosa country subsequent the rainy season extended for a distance of over twenty miles and the water stood at a depth of eighteen inches on those margins and all of it found vent through the Caloosa valley.

"The combined width of the canals leading into Lake Hicpochee is about fifty feet, and it is through these canals that the only water from Okeechobee direct can reach the Caloosa river at present.

"During the late fall, winter and spring months the evaporation from the surface of lake Okeechobee is equal to the inflow from the Kissimmee water shed.

"The abnormal inflow from the Kissimmee valley is confined to four months of the year.

"The efficiency of the drainage canals conducted by the Okeechobee Company cover the entire year. These canals are an unceasing drain on the great lake and as a consequence the surface of lake Okeechobee is from year to year reduced to a lower level and had it not been for the phenomenal rainfall at the end of the rainy season of 1894, the surface of Okeechobee at this date would have safely been nine feet below its level at the inauguration of our enterprise in 1881, and thus creating an artificial reservoir capable of storing the storm waters of any period without the possible reinundation of any of the bordering land.

"And I again assert that were these canals closed the waters in Okeechobee will again rise to their old level and be a constant menace to that entire country.

"The configuration of the head of the Caloosa country in vicinity of Lake Flirt is such that immediately subsequent the rainy period the low bordering lands adjacent Lake Flirt must be more or less subject to overflow. The seepage from marsh south from the mouth of the Fisheating Creek and north from the Okaloacoochee slough meet at that point and add to this the drainage from the divide north and south of the lake there is sufficient water shed to more or less affect the low margins near lake Flirt, even if Lake Okeechobee and its immediate bordering marshes did not exist.

"I hesitate to write so much in detail and have curtailed much that might be said in connection with this subject and trust that until I am able to organize for the great work of placing the rich lands about Okeechobee under cultivation that the Board will not demand that the canals will be closed.

"Under the plans for the treatment of these lands as suggested we will not only close the canals but erect barriers against the seepage of the marshes into lake Flirt at Ft. Thompson. And thus fully meet all demands of my friend Capt. Hendry to whose attention I ask you to present this communication.

And should Captain Hendry after being fully informed of my position and expectations in reference to the future development of these lands still insist on the closing of these canals and the Board also regard it as a necessary expedient, I ask that the question be left open for further consideration.

I do not wish the Board to infer that I hesitate on account of the expense involved in the work of closing the canals; my sole objection is one of expediency in which the State is fully interested with the Company. A reinundation of the marsh lands, which is certain to follow the closing of the canals, will absolutely bar all channels for securing capital to undertake the great work I have

in view and of which I have assurance as soon as the financial clouds are dissipated.

Yours truly,

HAMILTON DISSTON,
President.

"Philadelphia, June 4, 1895.

"Wm. M. McIntosh, Esq.,
"Secy. I. I. Board, Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir.:—Regarding the matter of closing the drainage canal west from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee River, I have asked Col. Kreamer for his views on the subject, which I enclose for your information. I do this in view of the fact that Kreamer may be absent part of the time during the summer, when it would be very difficult to reach him on this subject, in the event of you wishing additional information from him.

"I certainly do not see that it would be either to the interest of the State or ourselves to have the canals closed, as the work we have already done would be very largely defeated, and would, probably, bring the State and ourselves into controversy, which I know neither of us desire, as our intercourse has been so satisfactory in the past.

"Yours truly,
"HAMILTON DISSTON."

"Philadelphia, Pa., June 4, 1895.

"Mr. Hamilton Disston,
"Pres. Atl. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co.,
"Bullitt Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Dear Sir—Relative to the communication of the Board of I. I. respecting the closing the canals leading from Okeechobee lake into the upper Calooshatchee country:

"I am acquainted with correspondence between the Board of I. I. and yourself and am fully confident that the Board of I. I. will have no difficulty in reaching the decision that to close the canals in question will have the effect of causing a reinundation of the vast area of rich marsh land bordering Okeechobee lake, and which area includes the great tract of land which we know as the Lakes Okeechobee and Hickpochee marsh.

"The views I have frequently expressed relative to the operation of the drainage canals are fully confirmed by

years of experience in connection with the great work of reclamation inaugurated by you in Southern Florida; that is the effect of drainage by the canals is of a progressive nature—in other words, the full efficiency of the canals is not noticed the first nor the second year, but the increasing drain upon the subsoil gradually exhausts the stock of stored up waters and results in the general reclamation of swamps and marshes and the permanent lowering of the surface of the great lakes and a positive reduction of the general water level of the country in which the canals are located, and in the improvement in the drainage of large areas very remote from the canals. This effect has been frequently commented upon by disinterested parties whose lands are situated outside the limits of our drainage territory.

"General Gilmore of the United States Engineer Corps in his report of June, 1882, on the possibility of constructing an inland canal across the peninsula of Florida from the St. Johns River to Charlotte Harbor, and whose observations were largely made within the limits ot fhe drainage district, confirms this position fully in the following terms:

" 'The subsoil is a well stocked receptacle and storage magazine, from which, by innumerable veins and rivulets, the lakes and ponds are fed. An open and comparatively deep cut would soon cause a very active flow of these subterranean waters to its bed, which would probably be abundantly supplied with water from this source for a certain length of time. But gradually the level of these subterranean waters will be lowered by the unceasing drain, the stock of stored waters will become exhausted, and, while the swamps may be reclaimed by the operation, their usefulness, as direct or indirect feeding reservoirs to the canal will be destroyed, or very materially impaired'

"And this opinion of an engineer of acknowledged ability has been fully confirmed by the operation of our canals, cut through this very territory which he had under consideration and which is affected by the question now under consideration by the Board of I. I.

"General Gillmore's forecast has been fully confirmed, and the 'level of these subterranean waters' have been lowered and the great marshes about Okeechobee and else where practically reclaimed.

"On May 24, 1893, the Board of I. I., in response to a

resolution by the House of Representatives asking for a statement relative to the operation of the Atl. & G. C. C & O. L. Co. submitted a rather exhaustive report on the operations of our company. This report is very explicit and contains meteorological data compiled from official statistics of the U. S. Signal Service clearly demonstrating that the reduction of the water level of this district was not due to a succession of droughty years subsequent to the inauguration of the work of drainage but is solely due to 'the efficiency of the canals and to no other cause.'

"At the time the Board of I. I. submitted their report it was shown that due to the efficiency of the canals leading from Okeechobee 'the water level of this great lake has been lowered four and one half feet below its normal level as established at the time of the making of the drainage contract.' This reduction of Okeechobee was noted by the Board of I. I. in May, 1893.

"On September 23, 1894, reliable reports from Capt. J. F. Menge of Fort Myers, Florida, and whose statement will be fully endorsed by the Hon. F. A. Hendry, indicated that the surface of Lake Okeechobee was seven feet below its normal level. This report of Capt. Menge was made about the close of the rainy season, and had it not been for the phenomenal storm of September 25th and 26th, 1894, there would have been no cause for complaint, as Capt. Menge fully states that at the date of his letter, September 23, 1894, 'I could not get my steamboat through the canals into Lake Okeechobee, there was only 16 inches of water in the canal west of Lake Hichpochee.' It is very evident therefore that no possible injury could have been experienced by the residents of the upper Caloosa country from the normal rainfall of 1894. On September 25 and 26 there was a precipitation of twelve inches of rain and as a consequence, canals or no canals, the entire peninsula portion of the State was seriously affected. The water rapidly dissipated at Fort Thompson and vicinity, as on November 2nd. Capt. Menge wrote: 'Water will soon be within the banks at Thompson.' This was the thirty-five days after the general wind up of the rainy season and the concentrated down-pour of the phenomenal character noted on the 25th and 26th of Sept.

"In the early days of our operations it was the usual condition to find the borders of Lake Flirt and the river at Fort Thompson inundated for months after an ordi-

nary rainy season; and the people of that vicinity are to be congratulated that the effects of the phenomenal storm mentioned dissipated so soon. Had it not been for the protection afforded by the drainage of Lake Okeechobee and marshes surrounding they would have suffered a greater disaster than from the storm of 1878. It is very evident that the residents of the upper Caolosahatchee country were saved from great loss by the presence and effciency of the canals and will be additionally protected as long as these canals remain open or in event of closing them the protection be afforded by levees, etc., as outlined generally in your letter addressed to the Board of I. I. on May 1, 1895.

"The presence of the canals of the Okeechobee Company is no more responsible for the overflow of the low borders of Lake Flirt and Fort Thompson immediately subsequent Sept. 25th and 26th, 1894, than is the Okeechobee company responsible for the disastrous freezes which successively devastated the entire peninsula of Florida during the past winter.

"The canals of our company, not only in the Okeechobee district, but in the Kissimmee district as well, are fully able to protect the bordering lands against ordinary rainy seasons; but neither our company nor any known mortal agency will be found potent against the abnormal opening of the flood gates of Heaven.

It matters not whether it be a lake, reservoir, or a tub, which, for ages, has been filled with water from natural sources and which by artificial openings has been partly empted and permanently reduced in level, if the openings be stopped or closed, as a natural consequence, the lake, reservoir or tub will again be filled to the old level. So it will be at Lake Okeechobee. Close the canals and the marshes, which last September were lifted from five to six feet above the reduced level of the lake, will again be inundated and the possessions of the company be obliterated. It will not require a very high order of engineering talent to recognize a principle so simple; and should the Board of I. I. conclude to have an opinion on this subject, I am satisfied it could be obtained from a study of the topography of the Okeechobee country from existing data and without entailing the expense incidental to an examination of the ground by a corps of engineers.

After an expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars in cost and a period of twelve years or more in time, resulting in the reclamation of a vast area of rich land about Lake Okeechobee, and the practical solution of the great drainage problem, to institute a movement which at one blow would obliterate all of the fruits of this costly work would, to say the least, deprive your company of one of its most valued assets. And my belief is that the Board of I. I., when they fully appreciate the position, will not insist upon the closing of the canals in question.

When you are in position to institute the plantation interests, under consideration, on these lands, the control of inflow from Okeechobee will follow as a natural consequence.

Yours truly,

J. M. KREAMER,
Ch. E."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 28, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Judge Geo. P. Raney appeared before the Board and presented 126 bonds issued by the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Companies and the Treasurer of the Board being present signed and delivered a receipt for said bonds which was in words and figures as follows:

"Jacksonville, Fla., June 26, 1895.

"Received from Frederic Pasco, Esq., executor of the last will and testament of Aristides Doggett, the following bonds and coupons decreed this day, in the matter of his petition in the case of Charles P. Greenough Administrator of Francis Vose, against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, in the United

States Circuit Court for the Southern District of Florida, in equity, to be delivered by the said Pasco, Executor as aforesaid, to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, their Treasurer, or to John C. Cooper and George P. Raney, Attorneys of such Trustees, to-wit:

The following Pensacola & Georgia R. R. Bonds and Coupons:

Nos. of Bonds.	Amt. of Bonds	Coupons.
171-176 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1869
182-194 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1869
6 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
36-56 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
262	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
69-70-74	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
78-80 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
88-83	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
85-92	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
101	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
105-108 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
134-138 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
144-145 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
258-261 both inc.	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
263-266 both inc.	$1000.	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
281 No. 75	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870
82-83-84 (another series)	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870.
312-321 (another series)	$1000	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870.
343, 363, 364	$1000	Int. copuons from July 1, 1870
34	$500	Int. coupons from July 1, 1870

The above aggregating 96 bonds of $1000, principal, each and one bond of $500, principal, and coupons, as above stated, and attached to the bonds.

The following Tallahassee R. R. Bonds:

2-20 both inc.	$100 prin.	Int. coupons from July 1, '70 att.
51	$100	Int. coupons from July 1, "70 att.
56, 89, 90, 212, 245.	$500.	Int. coupons from July 1, '70 att.
253-256 both inc.	$500.	Int coupons from July 1, '70 att.

Making 20 Tallahassee R. R. bonds of $100 prin. and 9 bonds of $500 prin. with coupons as above stated attached."

"Tallahassee, Fla., June 28, 1895.

"Received of John C. Cooper and Geo. P. Raney the above mentioned bonds, with coupons attached, described in the receipt of said John C. Cooper to Frederic Pasco, as executor of Aristides Doggett, deceased, dated June 26, 1895, a true copy of which is above written containing a list of said bonds and coupons, numbers, amounts, and dates of same. Being the Bonds ordered by the U. S. Circuit Court, Southern District of Florida, by order dated June 26, 1895, to be turned over by said Frederic Pasco, as executor of Aristides Doggett, to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida. Done and received in the presence of the Board of Trustees of I. I. Fund in open session.

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Treasurer Bd. of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

It was unanimously Resolved, That the bonds so received be at once destroyed by burning with fire.

In accordance with the resolution just adopted the bonds enumerated in the foregoing receipt, one hundred and twenty-six in number, and amounting to one hundred and three thousand dollars, together with each and all of the coupons were destroyed by burning with fire in the centre of the walk about twenty one feet north of the basement door on the north end of the Capitol building in the presence of Governor Henry L. Mitchell, Comptroller William D. Bloxham, Attorney General W. B. Lamar and State Treasurer C. B. Collins, members of the Board of Trustees ,and Judge Geo. P. Raney, Attorney, and W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Treasurer of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 1, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased the following bonds and his action was approved:
From Hon. R. F. Rogers:

One (1) Columbia County bond No. 58, of the denomination of One thousand dollars with coupons No. 28 to 30, inclusive, attached, for One thousand and fifteen dollars.
From A. B. Hogan:

One (1) Columbia County bond, No. 215, of the denomination of One hundred dollars, with coupons No. 28 to 30, inclusive, attached, for One hundred dollars.
From Geo. Lewis:

Two (2) Madison County bonds, Nos. 27 and 119, of the denomination of Five hundred dollars each, with coupons No. 9 to 25, inclusive, attached, for one thousand and five dollars.

Three (3) Leon County bonds, Nos. 48, 51 and 53, of the denomination of Five hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 13 to 19, inclusive, attached, for Fifteen hundred and thirty dollars.

The following itemized bill of Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, with the annexed receipt was presented and ordered paid:

"Jacksonville, Fla., June 27, 1895.

"Trustees Internal Improvement Fund, Fla.,
"In Account with Cooper and Cooper—
"Attorneys at Law.

"Moneys paid out by J. C. Cooper in case Vose vs. Int. Im. Fund Pasco Excr. Doggett, Intervenor.

1894.		
Feby. 22	Telegram	.50
Feby. 26	Expenses J. C. Cooper trip to Tallahassee	25.00
Feby. 24	Telegram	.85
Feby. 28	Cert. Copy Bill in Wilson Suit	2.55
1895.		
Feby. 20	Telegram	.25
June 26	Cash to R. B. Archibald as Examiner	7.50
June 26	Cash to H. H. Buckman as Atty of F. Pasco—per order of court	150.00
		$186.65"

"Jacksonville, Fla., June 26, 1895.

"Received from J. C. Cooper, Esq.—Sol. I. I. Fund—One hundred and fifty dollars, in full settlement of any demands due to Estate of A. Doggett for safe keeping and custody certain bonds, 126 in number, delivered this day to solicitors trustees I. I. Fund on order Court in case of Vose *et al* v. Trustees upon petition F. Pasco Ex. A. Doggett decd.

$150 $ "F. PASCO, Executor,
Last will and test. A. Doggett decd.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 2, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the coupons now due on the $1500 of Florida State 6 per cent. bonds belonging to the Sinking Fund of the Florida Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road Company Bonds issued under the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act of this State, be collected and that the said State Bonds be sold; and that the proceeds of such coupons and State bonds and the cash now on hand belonging to such Sinking Fund be applied to the payment of the principal of such outstanding Florida Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road Bonds.

Resolved further: That the Treasurer of the Board be and is hereby directed to publish immediately in the following newspapers, to-wit: The Daily Florida Citizen, twice a week, and in the Weekly Tallahasseean, once a week, a notice calling upon all holders of such outstanding Florida Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road Bonds to present the same to him at Tallahassee, Florida, on or be-

fore the 15th day of July, A. D. 1895, for participation in the distribution of such cash, including the proceeds of such State bonds and coupons, and such Treasurer shall also give similar notice by letter to all persons whom he may be advised are holders of such bonds; and that the Treasurer shall on the 16th day of July, 1895, report to this board what bonds have been so presented and by whom.

The form of notice to be given under said resolution was ordered spread upon the minutes, and is as follows:

"BONDS OF THE FLORIDA ATLANTIC & GULF CENTRAL RAILROAD.

"All holders of outstanding bonds of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned at Tallahassee, Florida, on or before the 15th day of July, A. D. 1895, for participation in the distribution of the Sinking Fund applicable to such outstanding bonds.

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Secretary and Treasurer Trustees Internal Improvement Fund."

The following letter was presented:

"Monticello, Fla., June 19, 1895.

"Hon. W. B. Lamar, Tallahassee.

"Dear Sir: The term of extension granted by the Board of Internal Improvement to the Miccosukie Drainage Co. is nearing its expiration. The Company is forced to apply for another extension of 12 months from date of expiration. We have been most unfortunate in this enterprise in many respects. It represents an actual outlay of over $4500 for information, experiment, etc. Last December we had negotiated for capital to carry out our original design when the unexpected happened in the disastrous freeze in this State and our ally—being a large holder in South Florida—withdrew from the deal and left us helpless. The stagnation and depression in business since we projected this undertaking has handicapped us all the way through and we ask the Board to consider these circumstances and protect our interests by another extension. If a formal application in writing is necessary please furnish me with copy of the form and it will

be made at once. You will increase our obligations by presenting this matter to the Board.

"Yours truly,

"B. W. PARTRIDGE,

"for M. D. Co."

Upon motion it was ordered that the extension asked for in the foregoing letter be made to July 1st, 1896.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 11, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Judge Geo. P. Raney appeared before the Board and expressed his views as to the legal questions involved in the matter of closing the canal from Lake Hickpochee to the Caloosahatchee River as outlined in the letter of the Board to Mr. Hamilton Disston, and the replies thereto by Mr. Disston which were referred to him for examination.

After a full discussion it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Board transmit to Hon. F. A. Hendry et al. copies of the letter of Hamilton Disston and a copy of the accompanying letter of Col. Kreamer together with a letter of transmittal in the following form:

"Tallahassee, Fla., July 11, 1895.

"Hon. F. A. Hendry and others
"Myers, Lee Co., Fla.

"Gentlemen:—I am instructed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to transmit the enclosed copies of two letters received from Hamilton Disston and a copy of an accompanying letter from Col. Kreamer to Hamilton Disston in reply to the letter from the Board to Mr. Disston submitting the

representations made by yourself as to the effect of the canal from Lake Hickpochee to the Caloosahatchee River upon the Caloosahatchee valley.

"The Board desires that you gentlemen will carefully consider the suggestions and representations made in these letters and that you will make any suggestions or statements of fact in reply to the same that you may desire to submit.

"Awaiting your reply, I have the honor to be

"Yours very respectfully,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

Bills were presented for the purchase of the fifteen hundred dollars Florida 6 per cent. bonds belonging to the Sinking Fund F. A. & G. C. R. R. which were ordered sold for distribution of proceeds, and Mrs. Julia Pettes having made the best bid, viz: 107¼, the Treasurer was directed to sell her the bonds.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased from Geo. Lewis one Madison County bond, No. 109, of the denomination of Five hundred dollars with coupons Nos. 9 to 25 inclusive attached, for Five hundred and two 50-100 Dollars ($502.50) and his action was approved.

The following communication was read:

"Tallahassee, Fla., July 11th, 1895.

"Hon. Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida,

"Gentlemen: I have the honor to report to you that in the capacity of your general counsel, in which I was retained by your Resolution of June 1st A. D. 1894, I have performed the following services.

"In October I argued before the Supreme Court of the State the case of Hawkins against the Trustees involving the question of the liability of the landed fund of your trust for interest accruing on the Railroad bonds after the maturity of the principal of such bonds. The decision of the Court was favorable to your trust, the Court holding that there was no liability for such interest.

"Last summer I became associated with Mr. J. C. Cooper (acting for Cooper & Cooper) in defending the suit instituted in the United States Circuit Court against the Board by F. Pasco, Executor of Aristides Doggett, for

compensation for the custody and care of $103,000 of bonds of the Pensacola & Georgia, and Tallahassee Railroad Companies, which bonds had been in the custody of Mr. Doggett from the year 1873 till his death in 1890, and since then were kept in the possession of Mr. Pasco, as his Executor till a few days ago. These bonds had been the subject of much litigation as to their ownership, which litigation was concluded by a decree of the United States Supreme Court, rendered in the Spring of 1886, adjudging them to be the property of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement. The testimony was taken in the case of Mr. Pasco, and the cause came on for a hearing last month and was decided by Judge Locke of the U. S. Circuit Court; his decision being that the Trustees should pay the $150 and the costs of the suit, and that Mr. Doggett's Executor should surrender the bonds. The surrender has been made and the bonds and coupons annexed thereto destroyed, as your records show. The defense made by the Board through their attorneys was that an allowance made to Mr. Doggett in a suit instituted and adjudged in his life time covered any claim he might make for his services in the matter of these bonds. There were also other features of our defense not necessary to mention. The Court said that the allowance of $150 was made to cover any actual expense there may have been incidental to the safe custody of the bonds. The result of the litigation was in my judgment eminently satisfactory.

"At the same time (last summer) I also became associated with Mr. Cooper in defending a suit in Equity instituted in the United States Court at Jacksonville by one S. D. O. Wilson against the Trustees, claiming that the landed fund is liable to pay the excess of the amount of the Sinking Fund of the Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central Railroad bonds over and above the amount of the Sinking Fund of said bonds in the hands of the Trustees. There are $23,000 or $24,000, face value, of such bonds outstanding. The case was duly prepared for argument and on the submission of the same last month was dismissed by the Court for want of jurisdiction. It may be that a similar suit may be begun in the future.

"I have also advised your honorable Board in the following matters:

"1st. The matter of the collection of interest on coupons on Railroads Bonds in Fla. A. & G. C. R. R. Co. Sinking

Fund, and as to the management and distribution of such Sinking Fund.

"2nd. The correspondence with T. H. Busbee, Esq. of Raleigh, N. C., as Attorney for A. B. Andrews, Esq., claiming to own one of the F. A. & G. C. R. R. bonds involved at the time in the above mentioned suit of A. B. Hawkins, then pending in the Supreme Court of Florida, and sued on as the property of said Hawkins; and asking information as to the Sinking Fund of the class of bonds mentioned.

"3rd. The matter of the application of the Atlantic, Suwannee River & Gulf Railroad Company, for deeds to lands under the grant contained in the Act of May 24, 1893, Chapter 4267, Laws of Florida. My advice being against the issue of deeds.

"4th. The matter of payment of the account of H. A. Wells, surviving partner of Wells & Randolph, for selections of lands under the Swamp Land Act of Sept. 28th, 1850, resulting in a final settlement of the account.

"I am now engaged in the management of the suit of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West R. Co. v. Trustees of the I. I. Fund *et als.* in the Supreme Court, and have partially briefed the same. The further progress of the cause has been suspended with a view to a possible settlement, but negotiations for the same are temporarily interrupted by the sickness of Mr. Wombwell.

"There are other matters now before the Board, as to which I am advising and not necessary to mention.

"I have received from the Board $1,000. Of course, my services to the Board in the suits at Jacksonville have been attended with some expense. I will be obliged if the Board will allow me some additional compensation and I am willing to render an account for services rendered in such of the above matters *as have been concluded,* or if this Board prefers they can make me a general allowance on account and postpone the final adjustment of accounts till the other matters are concluded.

"Very Respectfully,

"GEO. P. RANEY,"

On motion, it was Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Board pay to Judge Geo. P. Raney, One thousand Dollars on account.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, for balance of fee for services in the case of Pasco, as Executor A. Doggett, and balance of fee in case of S. D. O. Wilson, both cases against the Trustees in the United States Court at Jacksonville, Florida, and decided in June A. D. 1895. Five hundred dollars ($500.00.)

E. O. Locke, Clerk U. S. Circuit Court, for clerk's cost in case F. Pasco, Executor of A. Doggett, &c. vs. Trustees Ten 10-100 Dollars ($10.10).

John Bradford, State Engineer, for inspection the Orange Canal and Transit Co.'s Canal, One hundred and twenty-five dollars ($125.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 13, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Board be and is hereby directed to apply on Tuesday next to the payment of the principal of the outstanding bonds of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company, the moneys then on hand belonging to the Sinking Fund of such bonds, as follows, to-wit: One twenty-fourth of the amount of such moneys to each of the bonds presented, and that the payment so made be endorsed on the face of such bonds according to a form to be prepared by the Attorney of the Board, and that the Treasurer shall report to the Board, at its next meeting, the amount so paid on each bond and a succint designation of the bonds, including their number, on which such payment shall be made, and the form of endorsement of payment made thereon.

The Attorney of the Board submitted a copy of a letter this day mailed by him to W. H. Baker, Esq., Jacksonville, Fla., which letter is in the following words and figures:

Tallahassee, Fla., July 13th, 1895.

"W. H. Baker, Esq.,
"Jacksonville, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Referring to our conversation in the office of Mr. John C. Cooper in Jacksonville, I wish to say that in making the contemplated distribution of the Sinking Fund of the F. A. & G. C. R. R. Bonds, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund will make no agreement as to the effect the application of the same to the bonds will have in law upon the rights of any holders of the bonds in any suit that the bondholders might institute of a character similar to that of S. D. O. Wilson against the said Trustees, lately decided in the U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville; but they will apply the assets of such Sinking Fund to the principal of such outstanding bonds. I am now, as then, without authority to make any such agreement.

"Yours respectfully,
"GEO. P. RANEY."

A bill of Hon. Fred T. Myers, Attorney for the Board, for balance of fee in the case of A. B. Hawkins vs. the Trustees, amounting to Two hundred and fifty dollars, was presented and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 16, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The Treasurer of the Board stated that he had distributed the money in his hands belonging to the Sinking Fund of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Bonds in accordance with the resolutions of the Board adopted July 2d and July 13th, 1895, and that he had paid on the

principal of each of the bonds presented the sum of three hundred and nineteen dollars and seventeen cents ($319.17-100); also, that he had written across the face of each of said bonds so presented a statement in words and figures as follows:

"Paid this July 16th, A. D. 1895, by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, on the principal of this bond the sum of three hundred and nineteen dollars and seventeen cents, the amount so applied being of moneys of the Sinking Fund of the Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road Company bonds; such payment being made under resolutions of the said Trustees passed July 2d, and July 13th, 1895, directing the distribution of such Sinking Fund.

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Treasurer of Board of Trustees,
"I. I. Fund, Fla."

In addition to this the Treasurer of the Board presented two receipts which he had procured from Mr. George Lewis, who presented the bonds on behalf of the owners thereof, which receipts are in words and figures as follows:

"Received of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, the sum of Five thousand seven hundred and forty-five dollars and six cents, ($5,745.06) as payment on the principal of the following Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road Bonds, viz: Bonds Nos. Eighty-five (85), Eighty-six (86), Eighty-seven (87), Eighty-eight (88), Eighty-nine (89), Ninety-one (91), Ninety-two (92), One hundred and fifteen (115), One hundred and sixteen (116), Two hundred and twenty-one (221), Two hundred and thirty-two (232), Two hundred and thirty-three (233), Two hundred and thirty-five (235), Three hundred and twenty-eight (328), Three hundred and twenty-nine (329), Three hundred and thirty (330), Four hundred and thirty-four (434), Four hundred and thirty-five (435). Such payment being made out of the Sinking Fund of the bonds of said R. R. Co., the amount paid on each bond being Three hundred and nineteen dollars and seventeen cents ($319.17), and the payment being made under Resolution of July 2nd, and July 13th, A. D. 1895, and endors-

ed on the face of the bond this July 16th, 1895. Each of said Bonds being of the denomination of One thousand dollars.

"GEO. LEWIS."

"Received of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida the sum of Fifteen hundred and ninety-five dollars and eighty-five cents ($1,595.85) as payment on the principal of the following Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central Rail Road bonds, viz: Bonds Nos. One hundred and thirty nine (139), One hundred and forty (140), One hundred and forty-one (141), One hundred and forty-two (142), One hundred and forty-three (143). Such payment being made out of the Sinking Fund of the bonds of said R. R. Co., the amount paid on each bond being Three hundred and nineteen dollars and seventeen cents ($319.17), and the payment being made under Resolution of July 2nd and July 13th, A. D. 1895, and endorsed on the face of the bond this July 16th, 1895. Each of said Bonds being of the denomination of One thousand Dollars.

"GEO. LEWIS."

The Treasurer of the Board informed the Board that he had acted strictly in accordance with the advice of Judge Geo. P. Raney, the Attorney for the Board, and that he had still on hand the sum of Three hundred and nineteen dollars and twenty cents, belonging to said Sinking Fund, which was held under direction of the Attorney to pay the pro rata distribution on one bond of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad, which was supposed to be outstanding and had not yet been presented to share in the distribution under resolution of the Board. The action of the Treasurer of the Board was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 13, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid.

John Bradford, for inspecting the work of the Apopka Canal Company, one hundred and twenty-five dollars, ($125.00..

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's Office, Ten 15-100 Dollars ($10.15.)

Floridian Printing Company, for printing for Salesman's Office, Three 25-100 Dollars ($3.25).

The H. & W .B. Drew Company, for seals for Salesman's Office, five 50-100 dollars ($5.50).

The Florida Citizen, for publishing notice of distribution F., A. & G. C. Sinking Fund, Two 50-100 dollars ($2.50).

W. H. Milton, Jr., Surveyor General, for field notes for Salesman's Office, Fifty-two 20-100 Dollars ($52.20).

The Secretary was directed to notify Col. John Bradford that the Board would be pleased to see him on Tuesday, August 20th, 1895, in relation to the work of the Apopka Canal Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 30, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented, and ordered paid:

R. B. Archibald, for services as examiner in Pasco Exr. vs. Trustees, for Seven 50-100 Dollars ($7.50).

C. A. Bryan, certified copy of bill in case of Isabella Lewis et al vs. Trustees, Three 10-100 Dollars ($3.10).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., September 9, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following bill was presented and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's Office, Forty-five 72-100 Dollars, ($45.72-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 1, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. A. M. Williamson appeared before the Trustees in reference to the Land Grant made to the Orange Canal and Transit Company in 1887, Chapter 3823, Laws of Florida, as amended by Chapter 4483, Laws of Florida, pages 262 and 263, Acts of 1895.

And after consideration it was ordered that the Salesman convey to the Florida Orange Canal and Transit Company 11,200 acres of land patented or to be patented to the State of Florida under the provisions of the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850. This quantity of land being the proportionate part of the original grant as compared with other land grant corporations, and being in lieu of the land that lay within the six and twenty miles of the line of the canal as contemplated in the original granting act of 1887.

Bill of L. B. Wombwell, for expenses of trip to Washington on land business for One hundred and six 80-100 Dollars ($106.80) was approved and ordered paid.

The salary of C. B. Gwynn, Chief Clerk in Salesman's

Office, was raised to $112 50-100 per month, to commence from present date.

A. L. Woodward was employed at a salary of $75.00 per month for work at Gainesville Land Office under orders of the Commissioner of Agriculture, for one year from date.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 5, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Raney, the Attorney of the Board, appeared before the Board *in re* suit of Isabelle and Frances T. Lewis, and it was ordered that the Treasurer pay the judgment in said case when presented.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 17, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Commissioner of Agriculture called up the matter of salary or commission to be paid Alexander O. Price as State Timber Agent. After discussing the matter it was

Ordered, That the Salesman notify Mr. Price that he would be paid fifty per cent. on all amounts collected for stumpage on State lands, and no other salary.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 19, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication from B. F. Hampton, Esq., Land Commissioner Gainesville & Gulf Railway Co., was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Gainesville, Fla., Nov. 14th, 1895.

"To The Officers and Members
"Board of Internal Improvements.
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Gentlemen: I have the honor to call to your attention that the Gainesville & Gulf Ry. Co. has completed five miles of railroad under its charter approved May 25, 1895, and hereby make application on its behalf, for an inspection of the line so completed by a proper officer or agent of the State, as required by the terms of the charter. A certificate of the Secretary of the road as to the number of miles completed is enclosed herewith, for your consideration.

"Very respectfully,
"B. F. HAMPTON,
"Land Commissioner G. & G. Ry. Co."

After considering the application contained in the foregoing letter, it was ordered that Col. John Bradford be designated as the Engineer to make the inspection desired.

A communication was presented from M. R. Marks, asking for a commmission on the sale of the Sebastian saw grass tract. The Commissioner of Agriculture was di-

rected to reply to Maj. Marks that the previous action of the Board in this matter was final, and that no commission could be paid.

The bill of H. & W. B. Drew Co. for $1.50, for Township plats for Salesman's Office, and 10 cts. postage thereon, was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 23, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary was directed to notify Hon. L .C. Massey and Hon. B. E. McLin that Col. John Bradford would be in Orlando on December 3d, 1895, to make further inspection of the Apopka Canal.

The Treasurer informed the Board that he had purchased from George Lewis, four (4) Jefferson County bonds, Nos. 155, 162, 171, and 234, of the denomination of One hundred dollars each, with coupons Nos. 9 to 30, attached to each, for the sum of Four hundred and three dollars, and the action of the Treasurer was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 25, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge Geo. P. Raney, General Counsel, appeared before the Board and presented several letters which were ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 22d, 1895.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Treasurer of Board of Internal Improvement Fund,

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—We have in our possession for collection two of the first mortgage bonds of The Florida R. R. Company due March, 1891, Nos. 927 & 1079.

"We understand that these bonds are payable out of the funds of said Board, and hereby request payment. $66 has been paid on the principal of each bond as appeared by indorsement thereon, before maturity.

"If you know of any reason why these bonds and accrued interest should not be paid, we will thank you to tell us.

"These are certainly genuine bonds, and our clients we believe acquired them bona fide, and for value.

"Yours,

"BISBEE & RINEHART."

"Tallahassee, Fla., November 25th, 1895.

"Messrs. Bisbee & Rinehart,

"Jacksonville, Fla.

"Gentlemen: Your favor of the 22nd as to Florida Railroad Company bonds Nos. 927 and 1079, received. I am directed by the Board to state that you must be mistaken as to the former of said bonds, as it is now in their possession. I am further directed to request the name of your client or the party claiming to own the bonds; it is the rule of the Board to request such information, and it has proved a valuable rule to them. The Board are not satisfied but that the great mass, if not all of the Florida R. R. bonds have become satisfied in law, and will on hearing from you again give you an early answer. They desire to have some investigation made before replying further.

"Very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Sec'y."

(Copy).

"Tallahassee, Fla., November 21st, 1895.

"W. W. Dewhurst, Esq.,

"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your favor of the 17th inst., replying to mine of the previous day, received.

"I have to-day had an interview with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in regard to the subject matter of these letters, to-wit: The suit of Furman in the United States Court at Jacksonville, involving Anastasia Island. It is of course apparent to the Trustees that but for the omission of the locators of the Palatka Indemnity scrip to call for deeds, the State, or the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund would not hold even the bare legal title to any of the lands involved in such suit. However, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund are willing that the defense of the litigation shall be let to the parties beneficially interested when and as soon as such parties shall file with them a written agreement that they will themselves undertake the defense of the suit in so far as the Trustees are parties thereto, and will pay all costs and expenses of the litigation as the same may accrue and save the Trustees harmless from all such costs and expenses.

Thus far, you and Mr. Flagler are the only parties known to the Board to be beneficially interested in the lands as they hold such bare legal title, and you and he will send a written agreement to the effect stated the Board of Trustees will consent that you shall defend the suit in their name; and upon this being done the authority indicated will be given.

Of course neither the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, nor any other defendant to this suit, has any right to assume to represent the State as to its interests in any tidal lands belonging to the State by virtue of its sovereignty. The bill does not make any issue as to lands of this character.

Very truly,

GEO. P. RANEY."

(Copy.)

"Tallahassee, Fla., November 25, 1895.

"W. W. Dewhurst, Esq.,
"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your favor of the 23rd received. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund are not willing to accept the agreement signed by yourself and Mr. Flagler which you enclosed, and it is herewith returned. This agreement may be understood to cover only technical costs of the suit, whereas the meaning of the Board is that all the expenses of litigation shall be borne by yourselves. Again, it states that the Board has requested that you undertake this defense. This request did not emanate from the Board and the statement puts them in a mistaken attitude.

Enclosed is an agreement which has been submitted to and will satisfy the Board, and is in compliance with my last letter.

Very truly,

"GEO. P. RANEY."

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 22, 1895.

"Hon. W. D. Bloxham,
Tallahassee, Fla.

"My Dear Sir—About one month and a half ago I wrote to Mr. W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Sec. of the Internal Improvement committee of the State relative to the status of certain coupons which I gave him a list of, asking him to give me the information as soon as possible. Soon after that time, I received a letter from him saying he would do so as soon as possible. I have been unable to hear anything from him although have written him two or three letters since. As a member of the Board, I trust you will speak to Mr. McIntosh, and urge upon him to reply to my letter, as myclients are very desirous and anxious to get the information.

Trusting I can rely on your indulgence in this matter, I remain,

Very truly yours,

"JNO. L. DOGGETT."

"Tallahassee, Fla., November 25th, 1895.

"Jno. L. Doggett, Esq.,
"Jacksonville, Fla.

"Dear Sir—Replying to your favor as to list of Pensacola & Georgia and Fla. Atlantic and Gulf Central R. R. Coupons, am directed by the Board of Trustees I. I. Fund to request the name of the person claiming to be the owner of such coupons. This is the practice of the Board when called upon for information by person claiming to be beneficiaries of their trust, and they respectfully request the information in this instance.

"Very truly,
"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Sec'y."

Bill of C. A. Bryan for copy of bill case S. B. O. Wilson vs. Trustees Int. Imp. Fund, for Two 85-100 Dollars ($2.85-100) was presented and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 9, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following report from Col. John Bradford was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 9, 1895.

"The Hon. Board Trustees Internal Improvement State of Fla.

"Sirs:—Pursuant to your instructions I have inspected the Gainesville and Gulf Railroad from Gainesville to McCrary Station. I find the road in good running order. Some banks rather narrow and some of them a little below grade both of which defects are usual with newly constructed roads and are generally remedied as soon as the

track is finished. The grades, curves, number and quality of ties all come within the requirements of the I. I. act. On account of the value of the lands and difficulty of obtaining "right of way" any wider the clearing is only sixty-five (65) feet wide except in places where the company has gone beyond this distance to cut leaning trees that endangered the track.

The length of the newly constructed line from the Marion County line to the end of the track at McCrary Station is five (5) miles. The weight of rail on this portion of the Road is 60 lbs. per yard. The old portion of the Road from Gainesville to Marion County line is eighteen (18) miles. About one half of this has 60 lb. rails and the balance 35, 40 and 50 lb. rails. The road is in very fair condition and doing a considerable traffic, running daily trains and being prepared to do a heavier one when the large quantities of vegetables along the line are ready for shipment.

"Respectfully submitted,

"JNO. BRADFORD,

"State Engr."

Judge Geo. P. Raney presented the following letter and agreement, which were ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., November 30, 1895.

"W. W. Dewhurst, Esq.,

"St. Augustine Fla.

"Dear Sir—Your favor of the 29th, enclosing agreement signed by yourself and Mr. Flagler, dated the 26th inst. and relating to the conduct of the case in U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville, brought by C. M. Furman and others against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and others, involving certain lands on Anastasia Island, received. The understanding of the Trustees is that you and Mr. Flagler will direct and control the defense of the suit as to the lands referred to in said agreement, according to the terms thereof.

"Very truly,

"GEO. P. RANEY."

St. Augustine, Fla., November 26th, 1895.

Whereas, the undersigned are the beneficial owners of certain lands on Anastasia Island involved in a suit in Equity brought in the U. S. Circuit Court for the South-

ern District of Florida at Jacksonville, by C. M. Furman and others against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and others, of which land the said Trustees are the holders of the bare legal title, and the undersigned desire to direct and control the defense of said suit, and are willing, if permitted to direct and control such defense in the name of said Trustees, to pay all costs and expenses of the litigation, including attorney's fees, as the same may accrue, and to save the said Trustees and their successors harmless from all such costs and expenses; now the undersigned do hereby severally agree, the said Trustees being willing that the undersigned shall direct and control the defense of said suit in the name of said Trustees, to direct, manage and control the defense of said suit in the name of said Trustees, and to pay all costs and expenses of the litigation as the same may accrue, including attorney's fees, and to save the Trustees and their successors harmless from all such costs and expenses.

Witness our hands this 26th day of November, A. D. 1895.

(Signed) "W. W. DEWHURST."
"H. M. FLAGLER."

The bill of Col. John Bradford for inspecting the Gainesville and Gulf Railroad, amounting to One hundred and twenty five dollars, was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 13th, 1895.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

L. B. Wombwell, for expenses investigating Apopka Drainage matters, Thirty nine 70-100 Dollars ($39 70-100)

The Floridian Printing Co., for township plats and list-

ing paper for Salesman's Office, Fourteen 35-100 dollars ($14.35-100).

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for stamps and stamped envelopes for Salesman's Office, Eighty two 60-100 Dollars (82 60-100).

Tallahassee Racket Co., for one cabinet for Salesman's Office, Five Dollars ($5.00).

The Tallahasseean, for publishing notices to holders of Fla. Atlantic and Gulf Central R. R. bonds, Three Dollars ($3.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR. Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 17, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. of Agriculture.

Judge George P. Raney appeared before the Board and presented two letters, which were ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Jany. 8, 1896.

"Hon. Geo. P. Raney,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"My Dear Sir:—Touching the coupons of which you have a tabulated statement, and which I hold for collection or suit against the Internal Improvement Committee of this State, will say they are owned by the estate of J. P. Sanderson deceased as represented by his heirs here in this city. As this is the information you sought as attorney for the board as a condition precedent before giving me the status of the coupons as shown by the records of the board, etc., I trust an early reply will reach me, containing such information as the board has on the subject.

"Very truly yours,
"JNO. L. DOGGETT."

"Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 17, 1896.

"John L. Doggett, Esq.,
"Jacksonville, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 8th inst. received.

My absence from this place has prevented an earlier reply.

In it you say: "Touching the coupons of which you have a tabulated statement, and which I hold for collection or suit against the Internal Improvement Committee of this State, will say they are owned by the Estate of J. P. Sanderson deceased, as represented by his heirs here in this city."

You further say: "as this is the information you sought as Attorney for the Board as a condition precedent before giving me the status of the coupons as shown by the records of the Board, etc. I trust an early reply will reach me, containing such information as the Board has on the subject."

I am directed by the Board to say to you that they regard this claim as illegal, and they will not pay the same, and to further say to you that the Records of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund will not be open to you for investigation as to the same until you give the names of the individuals claiming, as the heirs of J. P. Sanderson, to own these coupons.

You will remember that I suggested to you that the records of your father, Aristides Doggett, Esq., as Master and Receiver in the Vose case, might throw light on this claim, and you replied that you held the key to those records.

You refused last November to give me the names of the person or persons claiming to own the coupons in question, and the information you now volunteer is still indefinite.

I repeat that the Trustees will not pay the coupons in question.

"GEO. P. RANEY,
"Atty. Trustees I. I. Fund, Fla."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 23, 1896

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. of Agriculture.

Judge George P. Raney appeared before the Board and presented a letter from John L. Doggett, and he was directed to make reply thereto. The letter and reply were ordered spread upon the minutes, and are as follows:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 18, 1896.

"Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 17th inst. to hand and replying will say that I thought that by giving you simply the "heirs of J. P. Sanderson" would be all you would require, and in fact my not adding who those heirs comprised was simply thoughtlessness. Will say now that they are composed as follows: Marion H. Sanderson, Minnie A. Sanderson and E. M. Sanderson, all of this city.

As I believe now that I have complied in every particular with the request made on the part of the Board I trust that there will be no further delay in giving me what information the Board has upon the status of the coupons for which you hold a tabulated statement. This correspondence upon this particular point touching the status of the coupons so far as the Board is concerned has taken up some considerable time, which of course I know could not be avoided, but since I have complied as aforesaid, I trust that you will remember it is equally as important to me to know what the public records in the possession of the Board contain touching the matter, as it is for me to know that the Board will not pay them.

Trusting an early reply will reach me, I remain,

Very truly yours,

JNO. L. DOGGETT."

Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 23rd, 1896.

"Jno. L. Doggett, Esq.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Sir: Your favor 18th inst. was found by me here this morning on my return from New Orleans, La., for which place I left on the afternoon of the 18th inst.

I am directed by the Board of Trustees to state to you that their records will be open to you for investigation, with the Secretary of the Board, as to the coupons covered by this correspondence.

The Board, for reasons stated before, will not pay these coupons and of course they are aware that a considerable time has been taken by you in concluding to give the names of the persons claiming to own these coupons and that but very little time has been consumed by the correspondence on their part.

Yours very truly,

GEO. P. RANEY,
Attorney Board Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.

P. S. As the Board takes the position above indicated as to paying the coupons, they prefer to pursue the course decided upon as to an investigation of the records.

GEO. P. RANEY, Atty. &c."

The bill of G. T. Whitfield for services as Examiner *in re,* Trustees vs. Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad amounting to Twenty-two 36-100 Dollars ($22 36-100) was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W .M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 30th, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. of Agriculture.

The following communication from Hon. F. A. Hendry was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Myers, Fla., July 26, 1895.

W. M. McIntosh,
Secty. I. I. Fund,
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:—Your esteemed favor of the 11th inst., together with communications from Mr. Disston and Col. Jas. M. Kreamer on the subject of closing canal duly received.

Replying I will state that I am not inclined to enter into a discussion with these esteemed gentlemen, and could add but little to what I have already stated to the Board.

No one ever supposed that the great drainage system designed to permanently lower Lake Okeechobee, and to keep the water within the banks of the Caloosahatchee river would terminate by turning those pent up waters loose upon the Caloosahatchee valley.

Any one must know that the canal leading from lakes Okeechobee and Hichpochee is daily increasing in capacity and it is only a matter of time when this canal must be closed or otherwise relieved, or the valley of the river sacrificed. Myself nor the citizens living along the Caloosahatchee river desire any controversy or complications with the Hon. Board of Trustees, and the Okeechobee Drainage Company. We fully appreciated the great effort made by both the Company and the Board for the betterment of this section of our State, and the most kindly relations exist between us all but when we see the work of drainage suspended, and those alarming conditions confronting us, we appeal in the most respectful manner for relief. To whom can we appeal but the Board of Trustees. The Board is the contracting party and solely responsible for the menacing condition of things as presented. The finely drawn theories presented by Mr. Kreamer, and quotations of Mr. Gillmore are doubtless correct, but are not applicable to the condition of things here. The low water of the lakes as presented by Mr. Disston and Kreamer existing since the opening of the canals. are only repetitions of conditions which periodically existed prior to the inception of the drainage work. I have known the bed of the Caloosahatchee river where it leaves Lake Flirt, before the drainage work began to be.

perfectly dry. So much so that cattle slept upon its very bed, but since the opening of the canal it has ever been flush, with a rapid current. The low water in the canals mentioned by Capt. Menge as being too low to navigate and quoted by Col. Kreamer was the result of sand-bars formed at intervals along the line of canal. Those extremes of wet and dry weather are conditions beyond the control of human agency. We are fully satisfied that when such rain storms come as experienced Sept. 25 and 26th, 1894, that all streams, reservoirs and depressions must be inundated to which we make no complaint, but when they do come, if this volume of water afforded by the Canal could be avoided the Caloosahatchee would be greatly benefited. This volume of water during such floods is no less than fifty feet wide with a depth of eight feet, with a 2 or 3 mile current. The fall of the water from Lake Hickpochee to Lake Flirt, reported by Col. J. M. Meig's U. S. S. E. is 13 6-10 feet. Think for a moment a volume of water fifty feet wide and eight feet deep with a three mile current piling in upon the Caloosahatchee river during those phenomenal rain storms and imagine what the result must be. Check the volume of the canal, and it would be bad enough I enclose a cliipping from a Jacksonville paper which I submit for what its is worth. You will remember Col. I. Coryell was the original Genl. Superintendent of the A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co. The canal south through the glades as started by the Company is the key note to the whole drainage problem, and if completed as it should be, would reclaim the lands around Okeechobee lake. I trust the Board and the Drainage Company may not believe that we are asking or making an unreasonable demand. We want the matter seriously considered. I don't want the work of closing the canal performed solely on my own suggestion. I desire the Board to act cautiously and wisely and do nothing but what is backed up by reason and justice, and I desire very much that my friends, Disston and Kreamer should seriously consider this proposition and not regard this appeal as a thrust at their interest. I would take special pleasure in agreeing with them that the lands around Lake Okeechobee and Hickpochee are practically reclaimed. If such was the case, and if I believed that the closing of the canal in question would tend to re-inundate them, I would withdraw the appeal, but feeling as I do I am forced to

ask that immediate steps be taken to close it. I have the honor to be most respectfully.

Yours, &c.,

F. A. HENDRY."

The Secretary was instructed to make a copy of said communication to Hamilton Disston with the following letter:

Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 31, 1896.

Hamilton Disston, Esq.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:—I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to hand you the enclosed communication from Hon. F. A. Hendry.

The Board desires me to express the earnest hope that Col. Kreamer will go down and see Mr. Hendry, and ascertain if the matter can not be amicably adjusted. It is assuming such conditions, that some action will have to be taken unless such an adjustment can be secured, and it is hoped that Col. Kreamer will at least make the effort.

Yours very truly,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

Secy. Bd. Trustees I. I. Fund."

A copy of the letter of Hon. F. A. Hendry was also sent Col. J. M. Kreamer, accompanied by a letter substantially the same as the letter to Mr. Disston.

The letter of the Secretary to Hon. F. A. Hendry was as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 31, 1896.

Hon. F. A. Hendry,

Fort Myers, Fla.

Dear Sir: Your communication of July 16th last, which was inadvertently mislaid, was placed before the Board, and Mr. Disston and Col. Kreamer have been communicated with upon the subject. The Board is desirous of doing everything possible in the premises.

Yours very truly,

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

Secy. Bd. Trustees I. I. Fund.

Judge George P. Raney appeared before the Board and presented a letter from John L. Doggett and his reply thereto, which were ordered spread upon the minutes:

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 24, 1896.

Hon. Geo. P. Raney,
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:—Your favor of 23rd inst. to hand. You say in your letter, "The Board for *reasons stated before* will not pay these coupons, etc." You will oblige me by giving those reasons again, as I fail to find any correspondence in my possession from you or the Board giving reasons whatever for the non-payment of coupons.

In reference to the records being open to me for investigation, will say that a trip to Tallahassee by me would be very expensive, and I would like to avoid it if I can. I certainly think that in all reason what information concerning the coupons the Board may have in their possession, they could give me by correspondence just as well as causing me the inconvenience to come to Tallahassee and examine the records myself. Of course if there is any charges that may result from the giving of such information as the Board has on the subject, will be paid for, when bill for same is presented.

However, I cannot see that any inconvenience aside from the reply of this letter would result to the Board, or their clerks, in giving me the desired information as this subject had unquestionably been investigated by them in order for you to pass an opinion. Therefore, if such is the case it will be a matter of great convenience as well as saving of expense to my clients if I am not compelled to make the trip to Tallahassee. You will oblige me by placing the matter before the Board, and with an early reply.

Very truly yours,

JNO. L. DOGGETT."

"Tallahassee, Fla., January 30th, 1896.

John L. Doggett, Esq.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Sir:—Your favor of 24th inst. was received late in the afternoon of Saturday the 25th inst. I spent Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in your city, and hence have not been able to confer with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund as to the contents of your stated communication until to-day, and am now authorized by them to write you as follows:

The reason why the Board of Trustees will not pay the coupons in question is, that they deem them an illegal claim, as stated in my letter of the 17th inst. to you.

They still adhere to their determination to leave the matter of the investigation of the records here to you as stated in my letter of the 23rd inst. They do not believe there is anything in their records that will justify their paying these coupons, and prefer to have you satisfy yourself by an inspection of the record for yourself and your clients.

Any further correspondence on this point will be useless, as the Board are entirely satisfied of the propriety of the course determined upon and announced to you.

Very respectfully,

GEO. P. RANEY,

Atty. for Trustees I. I. Fund Fla."

The bill of the Floridian Printing Company for printing land lists for Salesman's office amounting to seventeen 50-100 Dollars ($17.50) was read and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W .M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 31, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.

The following communication from Judge George P. Raney was read:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 31, '96.

Dear Governor:

If you and the other members of the Board of Trustees I. I. Fund think it proper, I will be obliged if you will allow me $500 on fee account as Atty. for the Board. I have not mentioned the matter to any one of them.

Very truly yours,

GEO. P. RANEY.

Gvr. Mitchell,
Prest. Bd. T. I. I. Fund Fla."

On motion the Treasurer of the Board was directed to pay the sum of Five hundred dollars, to Judge George P. Raney on account fee as Attorney of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 14, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. General.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following communication addressed to Governor Mitchell was read to the Board and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"St. Augustine, Fla., March 11th, 1896.

The Honorable H. L .Mitchell,
Governor of Florida.
Tallahassee.

Dear Sir:—On behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company I beg to report that our channel is now open between Lake Worth and Biscayne Bay. We would therefore feel much obliged if the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund would appoint an Engineer to inspect and report upon the condition of that section of the waterway, the length of which is about seventy-eight miles.

Yours respectfully,
GEO. F. MILES,
General Manager.

In compliance with the request contained in the foregoing letter Col. John Bradford was designated as the Engineer of the Board and the Secretary was directed to so inform Col. Bradford, and request him to inspect the canal between Lake Worth and Biscayne Bay.

The following bills were ordered paid:

The Floridian Printing Company for listing paper for Salesman's Office—Three 50-100 Dollars.

The H. & W. B. Drew Company for maps and seals for Salesman's Office—Seven 10-100 Dollars.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Mar. 24, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agr.

The following letter from Messrs. Bisbee & Rinehart, and reply thereto were ordered spread upon the minutes:

Jacksonville, Fla., Mar. 7, 1896.

"W. M. McIntosh, Esq.,
Treas. Internal Imp. Fund,
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir—Under date of November 25, 1895, you wrote us in respect to certain bonds of the Florida Railroad Company, Nos. 929 to 1079. Please inform us whether the Board will order the payment of these bonds without judicial proceedings, and oblige

Yours truly,
BISBEE & RINEHART."

Tallahassee, Fla., Mar. 24th, 1896.

Messrs. Bisbee & Rinehart,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Gentlemen:—Referring to your favor of the 7th inst. relating, as the Board understands it, to Florida R. R. Bonds Nos. 929 and 1079, I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, to say that they decline to pay the same, believing, as they do, that these and other bonds of the same class ought to be surrendered to them for cancellation.

Yours very truly,
W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.

The Board then adjourned.
Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Mar. 26, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agr.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the sum of Four hundred and two dollars ($402.00) be and the same is hereby appropriated to pay for additional clerical work in Salesman's Office, and the Treasurer of this Board is hereby authorized to pay said sum to L. B. Wombwell, Salesman, upon his filing receipts therefor.

The Board then adjourned
Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Mar. 28, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.
Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agr.

Col. John Bradford, Acting State Engineer, and L. B. Wombwell, Comr. of Agriculture, made their report of the examination of the work of draining and reclaiming the lands around Lake Apopka by L. H. Davis, as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 13, 1896.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund,

Sirs: Pursuant to your instructions we have examined the lands and canals of the Apopka Canal Co., and beg leave to report as follows:

The waters of the Lake and canal are lower than when seen in May and the saw grass lands appear quite dry—little or no water in the small ditches. The flow in the main canal has been checked for some time for fear of making the saw grass too dry for the growing crops.

It is charged that the main canal is not graded in its bottom. This under the circumstances it was impossible to do, as the company who did the first work dug out many deep places and holes, the bottom of which could not be reached by any proper grade line. They have however graded the bottom giving a regular fall where it was not already too deep. This is attested by the very uniform velocity of the current in the canal. The attention of the old Company (the Apopka Canal Co.) was several times called by the State Engineer to the shallow places in the canal particularly through the clay or "marl cut" which of course limited the capacity of the canal to these shallow places. Acompanying this is a paper showing diagrams of cross sections of some of these points taken before the work of deepening was begun. These diagrams shows at a glance the increase of the capacity of the Canal by this last work.

As to the capacity of the canal at the Rail Road Bridge a large increase has been made possible in the rebuilding of the Bridge which has been taken advantage of by the Canal Co. They have also straightened the Canal in the approach to the Bridge and the objections reported by the State Engineer on May 26, 1890, do not now exist. As to the capacity of the Canal "for a mile or more" above Lake Beauclair where it is claimed that the new Co. has done no work, we find on examination that the Canal there has greater capacity than through the Apopka saw grass above the Railroad being deeper and with less current. There is no bar forming at its entrance into the Lake.

After a thorough examination we feel satisfied that the amount ($30,000.00) required to be expended on the work has been expended in drainage and reclamation.

Whether this will prove to be sufficient for the full drainage and reclamation of the lands time alone can tell. The capacity of the canal and the subsidary ditches has been tested to some extent by the very wet spring of 1895

but there has been no such season of unusual rainfall as in the winter and spring of 1889-90.

JNO. BRADFORD, State Engineer.
L. B. WOMBWELL."

Mr. Davis having already paid for all the State lands claimed to have been drained or reclaimed at the rate of one dollar per acre, and received a deed for the same, it was ordered that the Secretary cancel and surrender the bond given by L. H. Davis to expend the amount of $30,000.00 in draining and reclaiming the lands around Lake Apopka, and said bond was cancelled in presence of the Board and forwarded to Mr. Davis.

The Treasurer was ordered to pay Col. John Bradford the sum of One hundred and twenty five dollars for his services in said examination.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 25, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agr.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the reservation of lands, acquired by the State of Florida under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, in Taylor and Lafayette Counties heretofore made to aid in the construction of a railroad through that section of the State be and the same is hereby continued in force until April 1st, A. D. 1897 for the benefit of any railroad built along the line of the Tallahassee Southeastern Railway Company.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 9, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Henry L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following reports were received and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., June 16, 1896.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Esq.,
Secy. Board Trustees I. I. Fund,

Sir:—Pursuant to your instructions, I have inspected that part of the Canal of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company from Lake Worth to Miami and find the work done in a most thorough manner the water of the canal being at no point less than five feet deep, nor less than fifty feet wide, and generally it is fifty five to sixty five feet wide and six to seven feet deep. The length of the canal from near the north end of Lake Worth to Maimi is seventy seven miles, measurements being taken partly from the surveys of the Company's Engineer and partly from the Coast Survey maps. The work at some points has been very heavy there having been moved by the dredges on this section 2,323,361 cubic yards of earth, shell and rock. To show the capacity of the canal a considerable portion of it has been subjected to a heavy traffic during the past season by a steamer—the Santa Lucia—which is 170 feet long 28 feet beam and carrying eight car loads of freight.

Respectfully submitted,
JNO. BRADFORD,
State Engineer.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 16, 1896.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Esq.,
Secy. Brd. Trustees I. I. Fund.

Sir:—Being instructed by the Board of Trustees to ascertain if any work has been done on the upper or northern end of the canal since my last report, and also to learn the reason for leaving unfinished work between Jupiter and Lake Worth, I beg to submit this supplementary report.

I learn from Mr. Miles, the Genl. Manager, that there has been only a little done by the dredges improving the

canal from New Smyrna to and through the Haulover, about $30,000.00 being expended. The reason of the unfinished work between Jupiter and Lake Worth is the failure of the contractor. His time being extended six months, he has still failed to finish. I am told that as soon as the dredges can be overhauled and put in repair they will be placed on this work of which there yet remains one mile of solid cutting and about the same distance of cut off, straightening Worth Creek.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. BRADFORD.

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

Gentlemen: After a personal examination of the branch of the Florida East Coast Line from West Palm Beach to Palm Beach, and the extension of their main line from West Palm Beach to Miami I respectfully make the following report:

The extension of the main line begins about a quarter of a mile south of the present passenger station at West Palm Beach, at the 299.5 mile post, and extends to the 366 mile post at Miami, which stands about 300 feet north of the Miami River. The newly constructed part of the road being 66.5 miles in length. The general direction being South 20 dgs. 00 min. west.

1. The clearing of the right of way is 100 feet wide, fifty feet each side center line of track. All the trees, bushes, &c. have either been burned or placed at the outer limit of the clearing.

2. Alignment—While the general direction of the line is S. 20 dgs 00 min W. there are twenty-two curves, eleven of which are to the right, and the same number to the left. The maximum curvature is (3 dgs) three degrees, of which there are four, all the others being but two degrees (2 dgs) curves. The longest tangent is sixteen miles from the 310 mile post to the 326 mile post. A number of the curves were put in on account of securing right of way, and not topographical difficulties.

3. Earthwork. All banks are fourteen feet (14 ft) at grade with side slope of two to one. Berms three feet (3 ft) wide and good side ditches. The highest bank is about eight feet. The cuts are sixteen feet (16 ft) at

grade with side slopes in sand of two to one, and in rock one quarter to one. The greatest quantity of material moved in the construction of any one mile was fourteen thousand (14,000 cu. yds.) cu. yds. in the cypress flats. These flats extend from the 333 to the 338 mile post. Between the 355 mile post and Miami large quantities of rock were encountered, not onl yin the cuts but in the borrow pits along the banks.

4. Grade. The maximum grade is thirty nine and six tenths feet per mile (39-6 ft) and is just north of Lemon City, it is but eight hundred feet long (800 ft). With this exception no grade exceeds 0.4 or twenty-one and twelve hundredths per mile.

5. Trestles. All trestles with but one exception are four pile bents, twelve and one half feet centres. Caps 12 in. x 14 in. x 12 ft. Double packed chords 7 in x 14 in x 25 ft. Ties 6 in x 8 in x 9 ft. Guard rails 6x8 lapped over and bolted to ties. All the trestles have retaining walls at the ends. The top work is acrbolized, and where piles are driven in salt water they are creosoted. The trestles are from three to eight feet high. Total length (4872) four thousand eight hundred and seventy two feet. See list attached for location of each and length.

The exception to the above class of trestles is one of (1300 ft) thirteen hundred feet in length at Cypress Slough (333½ mile post) which has two pile bents, twelve and a half feet centres, 12x14 caps—single stringers 12x14. It is intended to fill this trestle.

The only truss on the line is a Twenty-five feet in clear lift or Jack Knife draw at New River, 341 mile post.

6. Cross ties are 7x9x9 except on five miles from the 322 to the 327 mile post, which are 6x8x8, very well hewn, and are laid at the rate of two thousand eight hundred (2800) to the mile. They are well lined and evenly spaced; about one half the ties on this extension were cut in the northern part of the State, and will last much longer than those cut along the line.

7. The track is laid with fifty-six (56lb.) lb. rail "relayers" from off the Coast Line, the guage is four feet nine inches (4 ft 9 in). Suspended, even joints, except on the curves, where it is broken joint. Angle bars, and "National" nut locks on all bolts. The rail has been carefully laid, being put down with the tread the same as when it

was in use on the Coast Line. It is well spiked, well lined, and evenly spaced on the ties.

8. Split switches, with automatic safety stands, and spring rail frogs, all of the Penn Steel Co.'s pattern are used. The switch ties are fifty-two in number 7x9, with head block 8x10. The frogs are number eight and six. The aggregate length of side tracks is four and two-tenths miles (4.2) and are laid with forty (40lb.) pound rail See list of siding attached.

9. There are three tub tanks, capacity of each being twenty thousand gallons. The tanks are hooded, and at each there is a steam pump and boiler. Also a house for pumper. They are located at Hillsboro, 327 mile post, Snake Creek, 354 mile post, and at Miami, 365½ mile post.

10. Mile posts are of wood, carbolized, with number board fastened thereto.

11. Section houses are erected at Lantana, 308 mile post and at Miami. Each set consists of a foreman-house of four rooms, and one laborer's house twelve by twenty feet, brick chimneys to each. Material for five more sets of these houses has been ordered.

12. Station houses are located on the east side of main line and are twenty-two feet by fifty-two feet, (22ftx52ft) all dressed material, ceiled inside, with slate roofs—are completed at Linton and Lantana, and material is on the ground for the one at Miami. At Miami the freight house is completed and is 22x52 ft. At this station a side track extends to the Miami River where there is a wharf, and warehouse in course of construction. The house is 30x80 ft. dressed material, and slate roof. All the sills of the house and top work of the wharf are carbolized, and creosoted piles are driven ten feet centres under both house and wharf.

The workmanship on all classes of this construction is good, and the material used is the best that could be obtained.

The branch from the main line at West Palm Beach to Palm Beach is five thousand three hundred feet in length, besides the Ocean Pier extending into the Atlantic sixteen hundred feet to twenty-two feet of water. The central angle leaving the main line at West Palm Beach is about ninety (90 dgs) degrees.

The branch is connected to the main line by two seven (7 dgs) degree curves forming a "Y" with the main line.

from the end of the 7 dgs curves the line runs east about three hundred feet, when it is thrown south with a reverse curve parallel about (80 ft) eighty or (90 ft) ninety feet, thence east to the outer end of the Ocean Pier.

There is but little cut or fill and the grades are light. The trestle over Lake Worth is twenty-one hundred feet long, of four pile bents, twelve and one half feet centres, caps 12x14, stringers double, 7x14 packed chords. Ties 6x8x9. Guard rails 6x8. All the top work is carbolized and piles creosoted. Each bent is x braced with 3x10 bolted on the piles. There is a foot way about four feet wide along the south edge, with railing on each side of it.

Over the channel is a fifty foot clear steel plate girder through draw bridge one hundred and twenty-six feet long over all, on a pier of thirty-six creosoted piles cut off above water, with grillage on top upon which the turning gear rests.

At ordinary tide there is a head room of about eight feet under this trestle.

The Ocean Pier has four pile bents of creosoted piles, fifteen feet centres. Caps 12x14, double packed 7x14 chords, with a wide foot way on the south side of track. At the outer end of this pier is a crib (35x70) thirty-five by seventy feet, the top being about twelve feet above high tide. It is sunk in twenty-two feet of water, being filled with rock. The company are now filling in around the piles in this trestle with rock to make them more secure. Some of the piles were driven in rock where openings were made by drilling holes, and springing them by dynamite, there being a reef with but about eight feet of water over it near the centre of the trestle. All top work of this trestle and the crib at the end are carbolized.

The ties on this branch are 7 in x 9 in x 9 ft and laid at the rate of twenty-eight hundred per mile. They are evenly spaced and well lined.

The rail on the "Y" connecting the main line is (60 lb.) sixty pound "relayers" off the New York Central R. R. All the balance of the track is laid with forty (40 lb.) pound rail, well lined and evenly spaced on the ties. There are three sidings on the west side of Lake Worth and one on the east side for private cars which is sixteen hundred feet long, and a one car track at the Beach.

Besides these side tracks, there is thirty-five hundred feet laid back of the hotels for the delivery of supplies. On the west side of Lake Worth on this branch is the warehouse for freight, so situated as to serve West Palm Beach and the business on the Lake.

List of Trestles, giving length and location:

Name of stream.	Lenth of trestle in feet.	Nearest mile post.	
Branch	12½	306	
Hillsboro River	675	326	
Cypress Slough	60	(333½	
Cypress Slough	1300	(	2 Pile Tem.
Cypress Slough	300	(	
Cypress Creek	300	335	
Branch	100	336	
Branch	100	336¾	
North Fork Little River.	450	338	
South Fork Little River.	800	338½	
New River	200	341	Here 20 ft. draw space.
Branch	25	349¾	
Branch	12½	353	
Big Snake Creek	450	354	
Little Snake Creek	450	354	
Big Arch Creek	75	356½	
Little Arch Creek	700	359	
Little River	125	360½	
Branch	12½		
Total	4872½	Permanent.	
Total	1300	Temporary.	

List of Stations and Length of Side Tracks.

Station.	Length siding in feet.	Mile Post.
West Palm Beach		299
Matthews	600	302
Lantana	1300	308½
Hypoluxo	600	309½
Boynton	none	312
Linton	1600	317
Boca Ratone	600	324
Hillsboro	1600	327

Station.	Length siding in feet.	Mile Post.
Progresso	600	339½
Ft. Lauderdale	2100	341
Modelo	none	345
Snake Creek	1300	354
Arch Creek	none	357
Biscayne	800	358
Lemon City	900	362
Buena Vista	none	363
Miami	10,200	366
Total	22,200—4.2 miles.	

Respectfully,

J. W. BUSHNELL,
State Engr.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

The H. & W. B. Drew Company—for four dollars, ($4.00), one 30-100 dollars ($1.30-100), six 38-100 dollars ($6.38-100), four dollars ($4.00), two dollars ($2.00), for sundry stationery and supplies for Salesman's office.

The Morning News, twenty-five dollars ($25.00), for letter heads for Salesman's office.

The Floridian Printing Co., two dollars ($2.00) for letter paper for Salesman's office.

E. W. Clark, for six 50-100 dollars ($6.50) for stationer yfor Salesman's office.

R. B. Gorman, Post Master, ninety-two 98-100 ($92.98 -100), for stamps and stamped envelopes for Salesman's office.

John Bradford, for inspecting East Coast Canal, one hundred and fifty dollars ($150.00).

J. W. Bushnell, for inspecting extension of East Coast Railway from West Palm Beach to Miami—One hundred and fifty dollars $(150.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 20, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agr.

The following communication from Judge Geo. P. Raney was read:

Hon. H. L. Mitchell,
Prest. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Fla.,
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir—I have submitted the case of S. B. O. Wilson v. the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, in the Supreme Court of Florida, which case was decided favorable to the Trustees by the Circuit Judge last Spring.

I would be very much obliged if the Trustees would allow me about $300.00 on fee account. Would be glad to have it this week if it can be so arranged conveniently.

Very respectfully.
GEO. P. RANEY.

On motion the Treasurer of the Board was authorized to pay to Judge Geo. P. Raney the sum of three hundred dollars ($300.00) on account of fees as Attorney for the Board.

The Treasurer was authorized to purchase bonds as follows:

One Suwannee County Bond No. 48, of the denomination of five hundred dollars, for five hundred dollars ($500.00).

Two Jefferson County Bonds Nos. 65 and 67 of $500 each and two Jefferson County Bonds Nos. 187 and 190 of $100 each with coupons Nos. 9 to 30 attached. for the sum of twelve hundred and nine dollars ($1209.00.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Oct. 9, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's office, seventy-two 13-100 dollars, ($72.13).

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Attorney General's office, four 26-100 dollars, ($4.26-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Oct. 9. 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. B. Lamar, Atty. Genl.
L. B. Wombwell, Comr. Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's office, seventy-two 13-100 dollars, ($72.13).

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for postage for Attorney General's office, four 26-100 dollars, ($4.26-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., Nov. 9, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. F. T. Christie appeared before the Board and made a proposition to lease Lake Miccosukie, and after due consideration the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It appears that the waters of Lake Miccosukie and the lands adjacent thereto are being devastated of fish and game by persons who are not residents of and who do not contribute anything to the support of the government of the State of Florida, thereby causing a material injury to the property holders of this State and especially those who reside in the immediate vicinity of said lake.

And Whereas, It is deemed best that the use of said Lake, and adjacent lands, by non-residents, should be subject to restrictions and conditions that will be beneficial to the preservation of the fish and game and become a source of revenue to the Internal Improvement Fund.

And Whereas, F. T. Christie, desires to lease the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, which include the waters of said Lake in conformity with the object and purposes hereinbefore mentioned; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the following lands be leased to Flavius T. Christie, for the term of four years from this date upon the terms and subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned.

All those certain tracts or parcels of land known as Miccosukie Lake, lying in the counties of Jefferson and Leon, in the State of Florida, more particularly described as follows: The unsurveyed parts of section one, two, eleven and twelve; all of section thirteen, the unsurveyed part of section fourteen, twenty-four and twenty-five, in township two, north, of range three east, containing in all an estimated area of two thousand, six hundred and ninety-five acres. The unsurveyed parts of section two, three, seven, eight, ten, eleven, fourteen, fifteen, and seventeen; all of sections eighteen and nineteen, the unsurveyed part of sections twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty and thirty-one, in township two, north of range four east, containing in all an estimated area of five thousand, five hundred and thirty-one acres. The unsurveyed part of sections twenty-three, twenty-four, and twenty-six, in township three, north of range four east, containing in all an estimated area of six hundred and eighty-three acres.

Resolved, further, That in consideration of the lease of said lands that the said F. T. Christie shall protect, to the best of his ability, the same from being devastated of fish and game and shall pay over to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees semi-annually fifty per cent. of all money or other valuable consideration received by him for hunting, fishing and all other privileges allowed on said lake or lands hereinbefore described, after first deducting the annual sum of four hundred dollars for his services and expenses in protecting the property and preventing the devastation of the fish and game as aforesaid.

Resolved further, That the said F. T. Christie shall render semi-annual statements to the Treasurer of this Board showing the amounts received by him for privileges of any and all kinds allowed on said lake or lands above described and at the same time pay over to the said Treasurer fifty per cent. of the amount so received over and above the annual sum of four hundred dollars hereinbefore provided for.

Resolved further, That such lease is based upon the express condition that all land owners who are residents of the State of Florida shall have the full right and privilege of exercising the usual privileges heretofore enjoyed of fishing and hunting in and upon the water and land covered by said lease, and that the sum of twenty dollars shall be charged in each and every case for an annual permit to non-residents to hunt, on any part of said lands and that such permit shall not be transferable to or good for any other person than the person to whom it was originally issued.

Resolved, further, That this lease is predicated upon the distinct understanding that it may be terminated at any time that the Trustees may or shall decide to enter into a contract to drain or reclaim said land or to sell the same or for any violation of the terms of said lease and for such purposes the Trustees hereby reserve the right to cancel said lease at any time in their discretion it may be deemed best to do so, and in that even all rights and privileges given to the said F. T. Christie shall cease and determine without creating any liability on the part of the Trustees whatever.

The Board then adjourned.
Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 23, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills paid by the Treasurer of the Board in March 1896, were presented by him, and it appearing that the bills had been duly approved by the Board, and paid by the Treasurer at that time, and accidentally omitted from the minutes, it was ordered that they be entered on the minutes of this meeting, and that warrants be issued therefor as of this date.

R. B. Gorman, Postmaster, for stamps and stamped envelopes furnished Salesman's office in January, 1896, forty-four 70-100 dollars ($44 70-100), and for stamped envelopes for Attorney General's office in January 1896, twenty-four 80-100 dollars (24 80-100) making a total of sixty-nine 50-100 dollars ($69 50-100.)

The Floridian Printing Company for printing for Salesman's Office in February 1896, nine 75-100 dollars ($9 75-100), and five 50-100 dollars ($5.50) respectively, making a total of fifteen 25-100 dollars, ($15 25-100).

It was also ordered that A. L. Woodward be allowed and paid one hundred and seventy dollars ($170.00), in full for his services in Salesman's Office from October 1st to December 8th, 1896, inclusive, and that Charles L. Beard be paid two hundred and twenty-five dollars ($225.00) for services in Land Office in Gainesville preparing lists of land entries for Salesman's office from August 27th to November 27th, 1896.

The Board then adjourned.
Attest:
W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary, H. L. MITCHELL, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 31, 1896.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: H. L. Mitchell, Governor.
W. D. Bloxham, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication and the accompanying list of coupons were ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Sept. 14, 1895.

Mr. W. M. McIntosh,
Clerk of Board of Trustees of Int. Imp. Comm.,
Tallahassee, Florida.

Dear Sir:—I enclose you herewith a list of coupons held by me as Attorney, from bonds of the Pensacola & Georgia R. R. Co., and from those of the Fla. Atl. & Gulf Cent. R. R. Co. Kindly let me know what the exact status of them is so as the records of the Board are concerned. An early reply will oblige

Very truly yours,
JNO. L. DOGGETT.

LIST OF COUPONS CLIPPED FROM BONDS OF THE PENSACOLA & GEORGIA RAILROAD COMPANY.

Coupon number.	Bond number.	Date of maturity.	Indicated face value.
6	213	July 1, '63	$20.00
7	"	Jan. 1, '64	"
8	"	July 1, '64	"
9	"	Jan. 1, '65	"
10	"	July 1, '65	"
11	"	Jan. 1, '66	"
12	"	July 1, '66	"
13	"	Jan. 1, '67	"
6	214	July 1, '63	"
9	"	Jany. 1, '65	"
10	"	July 1, '65	"
11	"	Jan. 1, '66	"
6	215	July 1, '63	"
7	"	Jan. 1, '64	"
8	"	July 1, '64	"

9	"	Jan. 1, '65	"
10	"	July 1, '65	"
11	"	Jan. 1, '66	"
12	"	July 1, '66	"
13	"	Jan. 1, '67	"

LIST OF COUPONS CLIPPED FROM BONDS OF THE FLORIDA ATLANTIC AND GULF CENTRAL RAILROAD.

One (1) Coupons, Date of Maturity, Sept. 1, 60.—$35.00. Bond No. 77.

56 Coupons. Date of Maturity Mch. 1, '61.—$35.00—Bond Nos. 219,306, 505, 504, 503, 456, 437, 428, 427, 426, 424, 421, 360, 358, 354, 353, 352, 351, 350, 349, 347, 346, 344, 341, 339, 310, 309, 308, 307, 305, 304, 265, 256, 255, 254, 253, 252, 257, 250, 249, 248, 247, 246, 245, 244, 243, 242, 218, 202, 197, 185, 182, 171, 160.

53 Coupons. Date of Maturity, Sept. 1, 1861—$35.00—Bonds Nos. 250, 248, 505, 246, 503, 504, 506, 60, 456, 245, 252, 303, 254, 360, 218, 305, 358, 307, 265, 242, 428, 244, 351, 437, 352, 349, 344, 247, 339, 353, 308, 350, 346, 427, 426, 253, 300, 354, 310, 424, 185, 256, 249, 171, 255, 202, 243, 309, 197, 251, 219, 182.

57 Coupons. Date of Maturity, March 1, 1862—$35.00. Bonds Nos. 246, 189, 173, 248, 250, 505, 504, 503, 300, 307, 245, 254, 252, 255, 219, 305, 358, 437, 265, 308, 347, 303, 349, 244, 339, 344, 310, 424, 354, 341, 242, 352, 182, 202, 428, 506, 253, 251, 350, 426, 456, 346, 360, 171, 243, 309, 60, 256, 427, 249, 185, 304, 218.

58 Coupons. Date of Maturity, Sept. 1, 1862—$35.00—Bonds Nos. 341, 504, 252, 427, 350, 428, 505, 347, 303, 202, 308, 360, 437, 358, 349, 426, 300, 421, 246, 356, 189, 245, 248, 265, 243, 250, 503, 220, 249, 172, 219, 218, 307, 456, 244, 254, 260, 506, 305, 309, 255, 197, 304, 185, 256, 171, 182, 339, 242, 424, 351, 346, 247, 352, 344, 353, 251, 253.

61 Coupons. Date of Maturity March 1, 1863—$35.00—Bonds Nos. 454, 197, 202, 432, 504, 445, 456, 204, 462, 219, 100, 449, 510, 387, 201, 190, 448, 442, 460, 188, 196, 447, 436, 218, 59, 216, 193, 505, 440, 451, 172, 441, 191, 453, 437, 444, 217, 452, 506, 195, 502, 57, 503, 439, 446, 187, 189, 220, 450, 194, 457, 192, 58, 200, 443, 61, 461, 438, 251, 99, 203.

The following bills were read and ordered paid.

H. F. Wyatt, for recording re-conveyance of H. Disston to State, one 50-100 dollars, ($1.50).

The H. & W. B. Drew Company, for blank applications for entry for use of Salesman, five dollars ($5.00).

R .B. Gorman, P. M., for postage for Salesman's Office for November, 1896, twenty-five 87-100 dollars ($25 87-100)

J. B. Whitfield, for certified copy of opinion *in re* Adams vs. Trustees, &c., thirteen 30-100 dollars ($13 30-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
Secretary. President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 7, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An offer of Baker County bonds to the amount of $800.00, at par, was presented by the Treasurer of the Board, and he was authorized to purchase the same for account of the apportionment to said County.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid: "Morning News," letter heads for use of the Board, twenty-five dollars ($25.00).

T. J. Roberts & Son, for freight and drayage on letter heads for Board, ninety cents ($0.90-100).

W. D. Hartt, for desk for use of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, eighteen 50-100 dollars ($18.50).

R. B. Gorman, P. M., for stamped envelopes, etc., for Salesman's office in December, 1896, seventeen 65-100 dollars ($17.65).

W. M. McIntosh, Jr., for amount paid for rent of box in vault for I. I. Fund securities, ten dollars ($10.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., W. D. BLOXHAM,
Secretary. President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 16, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W .D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Governor Bloxham was elected President.

Petition on behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company was presented, read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., January 15th, 1897.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"Your petitioner, the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, respectfully showeth to your Honorable Board:

"That in addition to its canals and waterways heretofore completed and inspected by the State Engineer and by your Honorable Board accepted, it has constructed its canal and waterways from Juno to the mouth of the Miami River in Dade county, a distance of seventy-seven (77) miles, which latter work has also been inspected by Colonel John Bradford, the Engineer of the Board, who has made his report of such inspection, which is hereto attached as exhibit 'A' to this petition. That your petitioner is now entitled to thirty-eight hundred and forty (3840) acres per mile of the lands now held in reserve for the said Company for the 77 miles of canals last inspected.

"Your petitioner will further show to your Honorable Board that in the accomplishment of the last mentioned work it has excavated and removed two million three hundred and twenty-three thousand three hundred and sixty-one (2,323,361) cubic yards of rock, clay, sand and muck at a cost to your petitioner of about $500,672. That in addition to the work aforesaid it has excavated and removed four hundred and and eighty-one thousand three hundred and seventy-seven (481377) cubic yards out of a total quantity of five hundred and seventy thousand (570,000) cubic yards contained in the canal between Jupiter and Lake Worth, at a cost of about one hundred

and nine thousand two hundred and fifty-five ($109,255) dollars. That in addition to the last named work your petitioner has excavated and removed five hundred and eighty thousand (580,000) cubic yards of rock, clay and sand, at a cost of one hundred and forty thousand five hundred ($140,500) dollars between the head of the Halifax River and Titusville, and has expended in improving the last mentioned work and its extension to Jupiter about eleven thousand three hundred ($11,300) dollars. Showing a total amount of material excavated of three million three hundred and eighty-four thousand six hundred and thirty-eight (3384638) cubic yards at the aggregate cost and expenditure, including contingencies, of eight hundred and seventy-five thousand eight hundred and seventy-one ($875,871) dollars, a detailed statement (Exhibit 'B') of which is hereto attached as part of this petition.

"Your petitioner further shows that when the small amount of unfinished work on the canal between Jupiter and Lake Worth is done the Company will have two hundred and ninety (290) miles of continuous inland waterway completed and ready for traffic and this work can be finished in from two to three months from date of possession of right of way, to obtain which the Company is unfortunately obliged to enter condemnation proceedings.

"That for this work and expenditure your petitioner has up to this date received no lands.

"Your petitioner further shows that on that portion of its canals and waterways heretofore inspected and accepted by the Board it has received about four hundred and seventy-five thousand acres of land which has been disposed of as follows, viz: (1) One hundred thousand (100,000) acres has been sold to the Boston and Florida Atlantic Coast Land Company for one (1) dollar per acre, the total proceeds of which sale were expended on the works of the Canal Company. (2) Out of the balance of said lands the Canal Company has conveyed to the Florida East Coast Railway Company one hundred and two thousand (102,000) acres on account of a subsidy of two hundred and seventy-two thousand (272,000) acres granted by the Canal Company under an agreement with Mr. H. M. Flagler as an inducement to him to extend his railroad from Rockledge to Miami and in consideration of his aid in the construction of its canals. (3) The Canal Company is now preparing deeds to the Florida East

Coast Railway Company for an additional ninety-four thousand five hundred (94,500) acres as part of this subsidy, and the balance thereof seventy-six thousand (76,000) acres) is to be conveyed to the Florida East Coast Railway Company when the Canal Company receives titles to its reserved lands.

"In addition to the above mentioned disposition of the land deeded by the State to the Canal Company about eighty-two thousand (82,000) acres have been sold by the Company from time to time and every dollar received has been spent on its works.

"The lands now left in the possession of the Canal Company about ninety-seven thousand (97,000) acres are waste and worthless unless drained at a heavy expense, and the Company after expending a large amount of money has no valuable assets left upon which to raise money for completing its works.

"Your petitioner further states that without immediate aid it can not obtain the necessary capital for the vigorous prosecution of its work and therefore prays your Honorable Board to make an order that a deed be prepared conveying to your petitioner, or its assigns, the lands to which it is now entitled on that portion of its waterways lastly inspected by the Engineer of this Board, as provided in Section four (4) of the Act approved May 29th, 1889, and your petitioner will ever pray, etc., etc.

"(Signed) P. W. WHITE,
"Atty. for Canal Company."

"Exhibit A."

"Tallahassee, Fla., June 16th, 1896.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Esq.,
"Secy. Board Trustees I. I. Fund,

"Sir:—Pursuant to your instructions I have inspected that part of the Canal of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company from Lake Worth to Miami and find the work done in a most thorough manner, the water of the Canal being at no point less than five feet deep nor less than fifty feet wide, and generally it is fifty-five to sixty-five feet wide and six to seven feet deep.

The length of the canal from near the Northern end of Lake Worth to Miami is seventy-seven miles, measure-

ments being taken partly from the surveys of the company's engineer and partly from the coast survey map. The work at some points has been very heavy there having been moved by the dredges on this section 2,323,361 cubic yards of earth, shell and rock. To show the capacity of the canal a considerable portion of it has been subjected to a heavy traffic during the past season by a steamer—the Santa Lucia—which is 170 feet long 28 feet beam and carrying eight car loads of freight.

"Respectfully submitted,
"(Signed) JNO. BRADFORD,
"State Engr."

Tallahassee, Fla., June 16th, 1896.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Esq.,
"Secy. Board Trustees I. I. Fund.

"Sir—Being instructed by the Board of Trustees to ascertain if any work has been done on the upper or Northern end of the canal since my last report, and also to learn the reason for leaving unfinished work between Jupiter and Lake Worth I beg to submit this supplementary report.

"I learn from Mr. Miles, the Gen'l. Manager, that there has been only a little work done by the dredges improving the canal from New Smyrna to and through the Haul-over, about $3,000.00 being expended. The reason of the unfinished work between Jupiter and Lake Worth is the failure of the Contractor. His time being extended six months he has still failed to finish. I am told that as soon as the dredges can be overhauled and put in repair they will be placed on this work of which there yet remains one mile of said cutting and about the same distance of cut off, straightening Worth Creek.

"Respectfully submitted,
"(Signed) JNO. BRADFORD."

I hereby certify that the foregoing are true and correct copies of the reports made by John Bradford, State Engineer, June 16th, 1896.

("Signed) W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
"Secy. Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

"Exhibit B."

Statement of Canal Works and Disposition Company's Lands.

Table showing amount of material moved and its cost to the Co.:

	Cubic Yards.	Cost.
Between Juno and Miami	2,323,361	$500,672
Between Juno and Jupiter	481,277	109,255
Between Titusville and North end of Halifax River	580,000	140,500
Improving Waterway between New Smyrna and Jupiter. (Record of Material moved not kept.)		11,300
		761,627
Contingencies and Interest on moneys, etc		114,244
		$875,871

Exhibit "B" continued.

Distribution of Lands received from the State.

100,000 acres—Sold to Boston and Florida Atlantic Coast Land Company for $1.00 per acre and the money received expended on works.

102,000 acres—Granted to the Florida East Coast Railway Company as a subsidy.

94,000 acres—Now being conveyed to said Railway Company as an additional subsidy.

82,000 acres—Sold by Canal Company and all the money received expended on the works.

97,000 acres—Still owned by the Company which require extensive drainage before being marketable."

After considering the above petition it was ordered that deeds of conveyance be issued to one hundred and four thousand and ninety-one and 96-100 (104,091.96) acres of land south of 126 mile post, in accordance with section 4, Chapter 4284, Laws of Florida.

Ordered, That Judge George P. Raney be paid one thousand dollars as general retainer.

Ordered, That the Salesman be authorized to employ D. B. Maxwell at a salary of $75.00 per month from Feb. ruary 1st, 1897, to bring up work *in re* lands in his office.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 20th, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, P. M., stamps, etc for Salesman's Office and Attorney General, fifty-eight and 96-100 dollars ($58.96.)

L. C. Yaeger, for door-sign, office of Secretary and Treasurer, three dollars ($3.00).

Floridian Printing Company, Printing land lists for Salesman's Office, fifteen dollars. ($15.00).

W. D. Hartt, rugs, etc., for Salesman's Office, eleven and 75-100 dollars ($11.75).

Levy Bros., carpets, etc., for offices of Salesman and Secretary and Treasurer of Board, two hundred and eight and 60-100 dollars ($208.60.)

E. W. Clark, Stationery for Salesman, four dollars ($4.00).

The H. & W. B. Drew Co., Printing for Salesman's Office, 1-11-97, 2-3-97 six dollars ($6.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 9, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

An application was presented from Hon. J. L. Gaskins asking for a deed to certain lands under Chapter 4267, Laws of Florida, and the Board declined to direct the execution of such deed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 8, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
C. B. Collins, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Salesman presented bills for moneys he had paid out for articles necessary for his office as follows:

"A" Amount paid Metropolitan Job Printing for Postal Guide, two and fifty-one hundredths dollars ($2.50).

Amount paid for World Almanac, twenty-five cents (25c).

"B" Services of Hardy Croom as Janitor for Commissioner's Office for February and March, at three dollars per month, six ($6.00) dollars.

"C" J. T. Ganey, for material and labor in fixing book case in Commissioner's Office, one and 75-100 dollars ($1.75).

All of which were approved and ordered paid to him.

Bill of Chas. L. Beard for services from Nov. 27 to Dec. 27, 1896, amounting to ($75.00) seventy-five dollars, for preparing lists U. S. lands at Gainesville ordered paid.

Bill of Floridian Printing Company for printing three hundred (300) copies of the report of the Secretary and Treasurer of the I. I. Fund for 1895 and 1896, amounting to eighty dollars ($80.00), was presented, approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 3, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Commissioner of Agriculture requests that a competent man be appointed to get up a list of U. S. Lands at the Gainesville Land Office, whereupon Mr. J. Maxey Dell was appointed at a salary of seventy-five ($75.00) dollars per month.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 21, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Commissioner of Agriculture offered the following resolution:

Whereas, The Salesmen of State Lands sold to Barthena Fudge the unsurveyed part of SE¼ of NE¼ of Section 17, Tp. 20 S, R. 27 E, April 18th, 1895, and the unsurveyed

part of SW¼ of NW¼ of same section, township and range to said Barthena Fudge May 6th, 1895, at the rate of one dollar per acre; the consideration being $71.60 for both tracts.

And Whereas, part of these tracts lie in front of land owned by the Hudson Estate and other parties.

And Whereas, Said Barthena Fudge has agreed that she will re-convey to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund said land if she can be allowed to purchase from the said Trustees, at the rate of twenty-five cents per acre, the W½ of SW¼ of NW¼ of said Section 17, Tp. 20, S, R. 27 E., 18.40 acres.

Therefore it is ordered, That the Salesman cancel the entries of Barthena Fudge to the above described land, being entries No. 15058 and 15056, and the Treasurer refund R. G. Robinson, her agent, the purchase money, amounting to $71.60.

The same conflict as to title to fractional SW¼ of SW¼ of Section 9, Tp. 20, S., R. 27 E, having arisen between James Sinclair and Mrs. E. L. Wright, it was ordered that entry No. 15047, April 18th, 1895, in favor of James Sinclair commencing from SW¼ of SW¼ of Section 9, Tp. 20, S. R. 27 E, be cancelled, and that Mrs. E. L. Wright be allowed to enter W½ of W½ of SW¼ of SW¼ of said section 9, Tp. 20 S, R. 27 E, at twenty-five cents an acre, and the remainder of said fractional section be conveyed to James Sinclair at the rate of twenty-five cents an acre, and the purchase money, amounting to $29.50, on the original entry 15047 be refunded R. G. Robinson, Attorney for Sinclair.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. W. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 22, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Col. F. T. Myers and Judge P. W. White appeared before the Board *in re* the land contest of Richards vs. Jennings and after discussing the question, action thereon was postponed until July 10th.

The following communication was received from Hon F. A. Hendry and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Fort Thompson, Fla., June 13th, 1897.

"To Your Ex., W. D. Bloxham.

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"My Dear Gov.—Early in 1895 I had the honor of presenting to Governor Mitchell, ex-officio president of the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund, an application on behalf of the citizens of the Caloosahatchie Valley and myself to have the canal leading from Hickpochee Lake into the Caloosahatchie river closed, which application was duly considered and filed.

A resolution was passed by the Board proposing to close said canal, some objection was made by the A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co. or rather Mr. Disston, who was the president of said Company. The resolution was never carried into effect. Now I understand there is no objection, and I have been requested by Col. Kreamer, the Genl. Supt. of said Company, to renew the application, and I beg to say that I and the people have been quiet about the matter from the fact we did not wish to urge the Board to do anything which might compromise it with the Okeechobee Drainage Company, or complicate matters in any way, but now we, after two years careful observation, which observations have fully confirmed what we stated then, are constrained to renew our appeal to the Board to proceed to have the resolution carried into effect. The same menacing conditions exist which existed then. In February last one mig rain flooded the entire upper valley of the Caloosahatchee, destroying some very promising vegetable crops which rain, if the Canal had been closed would have done no material damage, and to-day it is netirely overflowed from a short period of rain fall. The Canal is daily increasing in capacity and volume. We trust that the Board will take this matter in hand at once and give us the relief asked for. The cost of course will be pretty heavy, but the sooner it is done the less money it will cost. Large lighters can be hired at reasonable price and steam tugs to propel them to convey men and mate-

rial to the point of Canal to be closed. It may be done by contract or otherwise, it may be done by piling or by the use of sand bags. I would suggest that the Board send Mr. Wombwell to inspect the condition of things before taking any steps and if he finds the conditions of things as represented, let him proceed to contract the work. I am willing if the Board so desires to attend to the work, and see that it is done as directed by Mr. Wombwell or any other agent you may send down. The people in this section are very much exercised over this matter and we all look to the Board to close the Canal as it is a matter of vital interest to this section, and we confidently make this our request. I hope to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

"I have the honor to be,
"Your most ob't Serv't.,
"(Signed) F. A. HENDRY."

After considering the communication of Hon. F. A. Hendry, it was ordered that the Secretary send a copy thereof to Col. J. M. Kreamer for examination and an expression of his views in relation thereto.

Judge P. W. White and Geo. F. Miles appeared before the Board on behaf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and requested the conveyance of certain land and the payment to said Company of the amount due from the sale of land covered by its reserve, and that the sale of lands in its reserve be discontinued.

The Salesman also presented the following list of the lands sold within the reserve of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company.

LANDS SOLD WITHIN 6 MILES OF FLORIDA COAST LINE CANAL BETWEEN GEORGIANNA AND BISCAYNE BAY FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1885, TO JUNE 21ST, 1897.

Tp. R.	No. of Entry.	Contents.	Cost.
25-36	14,653	80.00	$80.00
26-36	14,702	40.02	40.02
" "	13,639	159.95	159.95
" "	13,601	80.	80 00
" "	13,678	40.02	40.02
" "	14,038	40.	40.00
" "	13,958	80.05	80.05
" "	14,391	80.05	80.05
" "	14,535	40.03	40.03
26-37	14,626	2.84	2.84
28-37	14,611	76.50	76.50
" "	14,341	76.50	76.50
" "	14,195	76.50	76.50
" "	14,752	400.00	400.00
" "	14,621	40.00	40.00
" "	13,657	160.00	160.00
" "	14,464	40.00	40.00
" "	14,843	40.00	40.00
" "	14,852	40.00	40.00
" "	14,639	80.00	80.00
31-38	14,559	39.85	39.85
" "	14,446	80.01	80.01
" "	13,904	80.01	80.01
" "	13,935	80.01	80.01
" "	14,529	200.04	200.04
" "	14,528	39.97	39.97
" "	14,675	79.94	79.94
" "	14,594	79.95	79.95
" "	14,784	39.87	39.97
32-39	13,659	87.10	87.10
" "	14,763	28.25	28.25
" "	14,695	31.50	31.50
" "	14,751	320.38	320.38
" "	14,503	21.50	64.50
" "	14.530	45.50	45.50
" "	13,545	22.50	22.50

Tp. R.	No. of Entry.	Contents.	Cost.
32-39	15,025	9.00	9.00
" "	14,282	80.00	80.00
" "	13,681	79.54	79.54
" "	13,593	79.54	79.54
" "	13,696	79.54	79.54
" "	13,720	79.54	79.54
33-39	13,959	81.50	81.50
" "	13,753	81.50	81.50
" "	13,754	81.50	81.50
" "	13,721	81.50	81.50
" "	13,929	81.51	81.51
" "	13,953	79.74	79.74
" "	14,669	39.88	39.88
" "	14,484	79.76	79.76
" "	14,650	119.70	119.70
35-39	14,458	40.19	40.19
37-40	14,345	58.30	116.60
" "	14,227	58.10	174.30
" "	14,363	78.15	117.23
38-40	14,480	83.23	83.23
" "	14,481	83.23	83.23
" "	14,603	83.23	83.23
" "	14,487	83.23	83.23
" "	14,493	83.23	83.23
" "	14,604	41.62	41.62
" "	14,492	81.27	81.27
38-41	14,533	5.20	5.20
" "	13,684	60.42	60.42
" "	13,640	35.70	35.70
" "	13,641	175.20	175.20
40-42	14,228	75.37	188.43
" "	14,218	79.89	199.92
" "	14,556	79.89	199.72
" "	14,534	80.10	80.10
41-42	14,285	80.00	120.00
50-42	13,687	80.00	80.00
" "	14,290	101.40	126.75
" "	14,298	40.00	80.00
52-42	14,862	79.88	79.88

Tp. R.	No. of Entry.	Contents.	Cost.
41-43	13,698	38.00	38.00
" "	13,709	98.25	98.25
" "	14,706	80.00	80.00
" "	14,614	86.75	86.75
" "	13,697	40.00	40.00
" "	13,755	74.78	74.78
" "	13,924	33.80	33.80
43-43	14,649	40.00	40.00
" "	14,488	76.04	76.04
" "	14,612	120.00	120.00
28-37	13,636	160.00	160.00
" "	14,274	80.00	80.00
" "	13,713	80.00	80.00
" "	13,607	40.00	40.00
" "	14,168	40.00	40.00
" "	13,570	40.00	40.00
" "	13,942	40.00	40.00
29-38	13,562	40.00	40.00
" "	14,624	40.38	40.38
" "	13,703	80.31	80.31
" "	13,781	80.00	80.00
31-38	14,522	31.50	31.50
" "	14,396	160.00	160.00
" "	14,824	120.00	120.00
" "	14,797	40.00	40.00
" "	14,238	79.85	79.85
" "	14,045	79.85	79.85
" "	14,392	39.85	39.85
" "	14,585	39.85	39.85
" "	14,541	79.69	79.69
35-39	14,496	159.80	159.80
" "	13,595	120.57	120.57
" "	14,428	40.19	40.19
" "	13,643	159.55	159.55
34-40	14,713	40.00	40.00
" "	13,573	123.40	123.40
" "	14,755	80.00	80.00
" "	14,691	160.00	160.00
" "	14,074	80.00	80.00
" "	13,563	39.00	39.00
" "	14,586	40.05	40.05

Tp. R.	No. of Entry.	Contents.	Cost.
34-40	14,478	40.00	40.00
" "	14,490	40.00	40.00
35-40	13,604	82.66	82.66
" "	14,808	82.66	82.66
" "	14,592	41.33	41.33
" "	14,815	40.02	40.02
" "	13,560	165.50	165.50
" "	13,579	82.75	82.75
" "	14,665	41.38	41.38
" "	13,933	80.00	80.00
" "	13,920	40.00	40.00
" "	13,596	120.24	120.24
" "	14,403	80.12	80.12
" "	14,234	80.20	80.20
" "	13,614	160.31	160.31
" "	13,642	80.15	80.15
" "	14,950	40.08	40.08
" "	14,958	80.15	80.15
36-40	14,903	120.67	120.67
" "	14,404	40.22	40.22
" "	13,555	63.50	63.50
45-43	13,917	160.00	160.00
" "	14,257	80.00	240.00
" "	14,197	80.00	80.00
Grand total			$11,747.77

(Signed) L. B. WOMBWELL,
Commissioner & Salesman.

After considering the arguments presented on behalf of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and the list of lands sold, filed by the Salesman in connection therewith, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas*, the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company made application to the Board for the payment to it of the moneys derived from the sale of lands to settlers within the limits of its grant under Section 2, Chapter 3641, approved February 6, 1885, and section 2 Chapter 3995, approved May 29th, 1889;

and upon investigation it has been ascertained that the moneys from such sales, south of Georgianna amount at this date, to eleven thousand seven hundred and forty-seven dollars and seventy-seven cents; and the Board not having available funds in hand to meet the demands of said Company, and properly administer the fund, it is agreed by and between the Board and the said Company that the said amount will be paid to the said Company by installments from time to time as the Board may have funds in hand which the Board may deem available for that purpose, and not necessary to the proper administering of the fund. The following resolutions were also adopted:

"*Resolved*, That no more sales shall be made within the reserve of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company by the Salesman of this Board, and

"That said Canal Company shall have the right to sell any of its reserve land south of Georgianna at any price they may see fit, and upon the order of said Company the said Trustees will execute deeds to such purchasers from said Company; Provided, Such sales shall not exceed one hundred thousand acres of the land reserved for said Company."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 23, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham. Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Board be and he is hereby directed to pay to Judge P. W. White, Attorney for the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, the sum of one thousand dollars in part payment on account of the amount due said Canal Company

from the proceeds of land sold within its reserve as per resolution adopted on the 22nd inst.

The following bill was presented and ordered paid:

R. B. Gorman, Post Master, for stamped envelopes and stamps furnished Salesman's Office in April, 1897, thirty-five and 06-100 dollars ($35.06..

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 8, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Rgriculture.

The Salesman offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved,* That the salary of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., as Treasurer and Secretary of the Board, be at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars per annum from January 1st, 1897; *Provided*, That he give bond of ten thousand dollars in addition to the bond he now gives, of that amount.

"*Resolved further*, That the salary of C. B. Gwynn, as chief clerk of the Land Office, be at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars per annum from July 1st, 1897."

The account of W. H. Milton, Jr., Surveyor General, for certain field notes of unsurveyed lands in South Florida upon which patents had been and would be issued, be approved for one hundred and three and 90-100 dollars, ($103.90), and the account of W. H. Milton, Jr., for twelve township maps for the use of the Land Office, for forty-two dollars ($42.00), be approved; a total of one hundred and forty-five and 90-100 dollars ($145.90.)

Bill of the Weekly Tallahasseean for printing and binding 300 copies of the Legislative Committee's report

in the I. I. Fund, amounting to twenty-five dollars ($25.00), was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 10, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The bond of the Treasurer, as provided for by resolution of July 8th, 1897, was presented, unanimously approved and ordered spread upon the minutes, and said bond is in words and figures as follows:

"State of Florida, }
"County of Leon. }

"Know all men by these presents, That I, William M. McIntosh, Jr., am held and firmly bound unto William D. Bloxham, Governor of the State of Florida, and his successors in office, for the use, benefit and protection of all whom it may concern, in the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars, and I, W. A. Rawls as surety in the sum of Five Thousand Dollars, and I, T. G. Rawls, as surety in the sum of Five Thousand dollars, lawful money, for the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we do bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals, and dated this Tenth day of July, A. D. 1897. The Condition of the Above Obligation is such That whereas the said W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, was, by resolution of said Board adopted on the 8th day of July A. D. 1897, required to give an additional bond as such Treasurer. Now, if the said W. M. McIntosh, Jr., shall in all things faithfully and promptly perform and discharge his duties as Treas-

urer of such Board of Trustees, then this obligation shall be void, but otherwise remain in full force and virtue.

"Witness our hands and seals the day and year above written.

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR. (L. S.)
"W. A. RAWLS. (L. S.)
"T. G. RAWLS. (L. S.)"

"Signed and sealed in
the presence of
"(Signed) B. J. Bond.
"(Signed) E. P. Britton.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 25, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following letter from Hon. P. W. White, Attorney, and the resolutions therein mentioned were presented to the Board and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Quincy, Fla., July 16th, 1897.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen: I have the honor herewith to transmit to you a certified copy of the resolutions of the Directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, accepting the provisions of the Act of the last Legislature of this State, approved May 31, 1897.

"I request that they be spread upon the minutes of your Board and that your Secretary be directed to acknowledge the receipt and filing of the same.

"Yours respectfully,

"P. W. WHITE,
"Attorney for the Canal Co."

"At a meeting of the Directors of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, held at the offices of the Company, June 24th, 1897, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, it was

"Resolved, That the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company hereby accepts the provisions of an Act of the Legislature of the State of Florida, approved May 31, 1897, and entitled "An Act to amend section 4 of an act entitled an act to be entitled "An Act in relation to the land grant of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and prescribing the duties of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, in relation thereto, the right of settlement thereon, and the specifications for the construction of its waterways, and the time of its completion from St. Augustine to Biscayne Bay, approved May 29, 1889."

"Resolved, Second, That the foregoing resolution be entered on the minutes of the Company and that a certified copy thereof be forwarded by the secretary of this Board to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee, notifying them of the acceptance of the provisions of the said act by the said Company, and to request an acknowledgement of the receipt and filing thereof.

"I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy.

(Seal) "SAML. MADDOX,
"Secretary."

The Treasurer of the Board presented two Madison County bonds, Nos. 81 and 123, of the denomination of $500.00 each, with coupons No. 11 to 25 inclusive attached, which he had purchased for one thousand and eleven and 50-100 dollars ($1,011 50-100); and the action of the Treasurer in purchasing said bonds out of money arising from the sale of land for the Relief of Bonded Counties, was approved.

Bills were presented and ordered paid as follows:

Walter Gwynn, for services in examining and appraising I. I. lands $53.96.

R. B. Gorman, P. M., Postage, etc., $14.90.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 28, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
Wm. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A letter from C. M. Ward, Esq., Secretary of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Co., enclosing a letter from Col. J. M. Kreamer, the Chief Engineer of said Company, was presented and both letters were ordered spread upon the minutes. Said letters are as follows:

"751 Bullitt Building, Philadelphia, July 20, 1897.

"Mr. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Sec'y. Board I. I. Fund,

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir: I enclose herewith a letter to you from our Chief Engineer, Mr. J. M. Kreamer, written in reply to your letter to this company dated June 26th.

"Respectfully yours,

"C. M. WARD,

"Secretary Atlantic & G. C. C. & Okeechobee Land Co."

"Philadelphia, July 19th, 1897.

"W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Secty. Board of I. I.,

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir:—At the request of the Executive Committee of the 'Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Co.' I have the honor to reply to your communication relative to the expediency of placing a dam in the Drainage Canal at Lake Okeechobee or Lake Hicpochee in order to prevent the possibility of periodical overflows of the low margins bordering the upper Caloosahatchee river region, etc.

"In this connection I would respectfully state that several communications relative to this question have been presented to the Board of I. I., and in which the position assumed by the A. & G. C. C. and O. L. Co. was stated somewhat in detail.

"In view of the data already before the Board of I. I., I deem it unnecessary to again furnish an extended state-

ment on the subject in order to clearly demonstrate that the simple closing of the Canal will not prevent the waters from lakes Okeechobee and Hicpochee passing to the Gulf through the Caloosahatchee valley in the same manner as prevailing prior to the inauguration of the Drainage Enterprise.

"It is a very simple proposition. The Drainage Company cut canals from Okeechobee and Hicpochee through which the flow is westward via the Caloosahatchee river to the Gulf.

"During a period of many years, due to the drainage effected by these canals the surface of Lake Okeechobee gradually fell until the waters of Okeechobee were confined within the true margins of the lake and were maintained at a level of seven feet below the normal level of the lake.

"During this period the only water which entered the Caloosahatchee river from Lake Okeechobee passed through the canals, and the greatest possible immunity from overflow, under conditions then existing was afforded the low margins of the upper Caloosahatchee river. This condition prevailed for several years, as detailed in letter to the Board of I. I. dated May 1, 1895.

"Late in the fall of 1894 there was a phenomenal storm under which a precipitation of 12 inches of rainfall occurred in 24 hours in the Kissimmee valley and the surface of Okeechobee rose abnormally.

"This unparalleled rainfall followed immediately on the heels of an exceptionally heavy rainy season and came at a period when the flat lands of the Kissimmee and Okeechobee country were already surcharged. The conditions prevailing before and immediately after this storm are fully outlined in the communication above referred to.

"If the canals were closed as requested the result would be to reinstate the conditions existing prior to the inception of drainage operations.

"The subsoil would again be fully charged with water of saturation, and the surface of the great lakes would again raise to the old level.

"Under any circumstances the Okeechobee Company could only be asked to place a barrier in the Canals excavated westward from Okeechobee Lake and as above clear-

ly stated such barrier would not prevent the waters from Lake Okeechobee entering the Caloosahatchee region.

"A solution of this problem satisfactory to all parties will be in erecting gates in the Okeechobee Canals and at the same time building a level across the Hicpochee or Okeechobee marsh to high bordering prairie land, and extending the Rita river canal southward from its present terminus,—this canal which was cut for a distance of over ten miles south from the southern shore of Lake Okeechobee is at present in an incomplete state. This work can only be accomplished by the association of large capital.

"It has always been the policy of the Company to erect gates, etc., in the canals of Okeechobee in order to control the flow westward into the Caloosahatchee river. But this could not be done until the canal south from Rita River was completed.

"In furtherance of this plan the Drainage Company petitioned the Board of I. I. to grant them permission to close these canals by gates, etc., and the Trustees did pass a resolution authorizing the Drainage Company to close said canals which resolution we understand is still in force.

"It may also be of interest in this connection to call your attention to the communication of March 5, 1896, requesting the Trustees of the I. I. Fund to encourage the completion of the Drainage Canal south from Rita river by granting an additional area of land for an expenditure of $100,000.

"Such an expenditure would have completed the south canal and enabled the company to have controlled the flow of water into the Caloosahatchee river at will.

"Trusting that the Board of I. I. before taking further action will give due opportunity for the Company to be heard.

"Respectfully,

"J. M. KREAMER,

"Chf. Eng. A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co."

After considering the subject it was ordered that the secretary of the Board reply to said letters as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 28, 1897.

"Mr. C. W. Ward,
"Secretary A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co.,
"Room 752, Bullitt Building,
"Philadelphia, Pa.

"Dear Sir:—Referring to your favor of July 20th—enclosing a letter from Col. J. M. Kreamer, I beg to say that both communications were presented to the Board at a meeting held to day, and I have addressed a letter to Col. Kreamer, which he will doubtless present to the company.

Yours very truly,
W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Secretary Board of Trustees.
"I. I. Fund of Florida."

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 28, 1897.

"Col. J. M. Kreamer,
"Chief Engineer A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co.,
"Room 670, Bullitt Building,
"Philadelphia, Pa.

"Dear Sir: Your favor of July 19th came duly to hand and was presented to the Board of Trustees at a meeting held this day at which all the members of the Board were present.

"After considering your letter, the Board directed me to call your attention to the portion thereof relating to the completion of the drainage canal south from Rita river, and to suggest that if your company desires to submit a proposition looking to the completion of that canal at an early date, it will be given careful consideration. The Board is fully impressed with the necessity for early action looking to the proper solution of the drainage problem to which attention was called by Capt. Hendry, and it is possible that some proposition looking to the accomplishment of that purpose may be made by a company organized under the laws of this State, and acting under special powers granted by the last session of the Legislature. Your company is fully identified with the interests involved in the proper solution of the drainage problem referred to and should be in the very best position to undertake the construction of whatever may be deemed to be necessary to accomplish the purpose in view. You can bring the matter to the attention of your company, and if it is deemed to be desirable to submit a proposition

looking to the construction of the drainage canal south from Rita River, it should be submitted at an early date.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The following letter from Hon. C. M. Cooper was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 5, 1897.

"Gov. W. D. Bloxham,

"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—Upon my return here after an absence of several weeks, I found a letter from Mr. McIntosh, as Secretary of the Trustees of the I. I. Fund, stating that in the suit of the Trustees against the F. C. & P. R. R. Co. for Sinking Fund, Col. Henderson had propounded certain interrogatories which it would take several months to answer and that nothing could be done in the mean time. I have no doubt that Mr. McIntosh desires to get up the matter as soon as possible, but I think that he apprehends that the examination necessary to answer such interrogatories would take longer than I think it would, if it was taken hold of and pushed to a conclusion.

"Some time ago he and I spent considerable time and labor in making an investigation which must cover the most of the matter covered by Mr. Henderson's interrogatories, and of these matters he had considerable memoranda.

"Judge Liddon, as attorney for Dr. Hawkins, is pushing me to have the matter disposed of, and unless we can bring it to some conclusion at an early day I apprehend that he will bring some litigation against the Trustees, and the matter may take a very undesirable shape. I know how many things Mr. McIntosh has to occupy his time and I would be glad if you would see that he gets the requisite information up as soon as possible. I know that he would be disposed to do this himself, but as I have said he is engaged with a great many things and may not appreciate the importance of getting through with it. Before he makes any answer to Col. Henderson, I wish him to notify me that he is ready with his information or that he has made such progress as he can, so that I can come up to Tallahassee and go over the matters with him

and with the Board, if necessary, before the Board is committed to any answers to Col. Henderson.

"Yours truly,

"C. M. COOPER."

The Secretary was directed to write Mr. Cooper as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 28, 1897.

"Hon. C. M. Cooper,
"Jacksonville, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your communications of the 5th inst. have been referred to the Board of Trustees at a meeting held to-day, and I am directed by the Board to request you to be in Tallahassee on Wednesday, September 1st, or as soon thereafter as possible, not later than Thursday, the 2nd, to meet the Trustees for the purpose of discussing the matters mentioned in your communications. It is deemed to be desirable that all the Trustees should be present at the meeting and the dates above mentioned are selected with that purpose in view. Some of the members of the Board expect to be absent soon after the last date named, and it is hoped that you will find it convenient to meet the Board next week. If possible, please advise me in advance when you can be here.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Attorney General read a letter from Hon. H. Gaillard, V. P. & Treasurer Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company and the Secretary was directed to reply thereto as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 28, 1897.

"Hon. H. Gillard,
"Vice President and Treasurer Florida Coast Line and Transportation Co.,
"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your favor of the 23rd inst. addressed to Hon. W. B. Lamar was presented to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida at a meeting held today, and in reply thereto I am instructed by the Board to say that owing to the almost complete cessation of the sale of swamp and overflowed lands and the necessity for providing funds to meet the expenses of suits now pending in the courts and other

expenses of administering the trust, there are no available funds to meet such claims as the one you present nor is there reasonable prospect that there will be funds on hand for that purpose at any time in the near future. The entire receipts from the sale of swamp and overflowed lands, wiith the exception of two sales under contract which can not be duplicated as we have no suitable lands for that purpose, for the years 1895 and 1896, amounted to $3,907.25, and the sales of the same land for the year 1897, in the ordinary way, will hardly amount to $1500.00.

"Owing to the fact that the lands now held are not so located as to create a demand, there is no prospect of any special sales to be added to the estimate of ordinary sales for the year 1897 and as the receipts from the sale of swamp and overflowed lands constitute the only fund that can be used by the Trustees in the payment of the expenses of administering the trust or any other expenses other than the purchase of bonds under the act for the relief of bonded counties, it should be apparent to you that the prospects for an increase of the fund are not very bright.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Secretary then presented a letter from Hon. John T. Dismukes, President of the First National Bank of St. Augustine, dated July 21, 1897, and his reply thereto dated July 26th, 1897, which were ordered spread upon the minutes:

"St. Augustine, Fla., July 21st, 1897.

"Trustees Internal Improvement Fund,

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen:—We beg to enclose herein notice of assignment to us by the Fla. Coast Line Canal and T. Co. of their claim for $10,747.77 against you, as recognized by your Board in a resolution adopted June 22, 1897.

"Please file the assignment and advise us how soon we may reasonably expect a payment of $5000 or a portion thereof.

"Your attention will oblige

"Yours truly,

"JOHN T. DISMUKES, SR."

"Tallahassee, July 26, 1897.

"J. T. Dismukes, Esq.,

"President First National Bank of St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 21st inst., addressed to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, with the enclosure therein mentioned, to wit: a copy of what purports to be an assignment to your bank by the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, dated 14th inst., of its claim against such Trustees for moneys derived from the sale of lands to settlers within the limits of the land grant to such company under section 2, of chapter 3995, Laws of Florida, and all sums of money due and payable by virtue of such claim at the date of such assignment, as collateral security for the payment of a debt of five thousand dollars and interest due from the said company to said bank, with power to receive and sue for said claim and moneys. The stated communication and enclosure will be laid before the Board of Trustees at its first meeting for their consideration, but in view of the fact that there will probably be no meeting of the Board until Governor Bloxham, who is now absent, returns to the State, it is suggested to me by the members of the Board now at the capital, to call your attention to the feature of the resolution of such Board of June 22, 1897, relating to such claim indicating the absence at the time of its adoption of available funds for meeting the demands of such company consistently with the proper administration of the I. I. Fund, and to say that they know of no change in the stated condition thus referred to, nor can they now foresee any. This suggestion will preclude any erroneous conception of the value of such resolution or claim as a security.

"Very respectfully,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

After considering the letter of Mr. Dismukes and the answer of the Secretary thereto, it was ordered that the Secretary send the following communication and return the notice of assignment:

"Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 28, 1897.

"Mr. J. T. Dismukes,

"President First National Bank of St. Augustine,

"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Dear Sir—The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida held a meeting to-day at which all of the members were present, and your communication of July 21st, with enclosure, together with my reply thereto, dated July 26th, were presented to the Board, and after due consideration the views expressed in my letter to you dated July 26th—were confirmed, and I was directed by the Board to so advise you. Acting under the direction of the Board, I beg to return herewith the notice of assignment which was enclosed in your letter of July 21st.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 18, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Commissioner of Agriculture and Salesman of State lands presented a request from E. C. Bird, Special Agent of the Trustees of the bondholders of the Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf Railroad Company, requesting a conveyance to said railroad company of 100,000 acres of land, which had been ordered made to said company, May 9th, 1894, and Feby. 26th, 1895, but by reason of there being no lands available at that time has not been conveyed, and the Commissioner of Agriculture having stated that this amount of land was available without affecting

the rights of other land grant railroads of prior grants, it was ordered that the Commissioner of Agriculture prepare deeds for 100,000 acres of land to said S. S. O. & G. R. R. Company.

The Commissioner of Agriculture also presented a communication from T. M. Day, Jr., Attorney for the J. T. & K. W. Ry. Company, with an order dismissing the suit now pending in the Supreme Court of the State of Florida between the J. T. & K. W. Ry. Company and the Trustees of the I. I. Fund, said order not being in a form satisfactory to the Trustees, on motion of Hon. W. B. Lamar, it was ordered that the Commissioner of Agriculture submit the communication of T. M. Day, Jr., Esq., and the order, to Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney of the Board, with the request, that he prepare such an order as the Board would approve of for the J. T. & K. W. Ry. Company, to make.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 13, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The matter of reserving lands under and in pursuance of the Act of the Legislature of 1893, (Chapter 4234, Laws of Florida) was taken up and after full consideration, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas*, Section 1 of 'An Act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of an Agricultural Station for the State of Florida, and to grant certain lands for the endowment of the same,' approved June 2nd, 1893, provides 'That there shall be established at some suitable point in Florida, possessing climate conditions for growing all kinds of plant life, including cinchona, logwood, and camphor, olive and India rubber trees. also vanilla,

tea, coffee, jute, New Zealand flax, etc., on muck lands over which the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund have exclusive control under the act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, an experimental station.'

And Whereas, Section 2 of said Act provides that 'for the purpose of the carrying out of Section 1 of this Act and to create a fund for the establishment and maintenance of said Agricultural Station, and for the further drainage and reclamation of the lands set apart for that purpose, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida are hereby authorized and directed to set apart one hundred thousand acres of the land granted the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, to be sold at such prices as may be fixed by the Trustees and the proceeds thereof to be expended by the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in carrying out the provisions of Section 1 of this Act.'

"*And Whereas*, In the opinion of the Trustees, suitable muck lands for the purposes indicated by said Act are located in Osceola County.

"*And Whereas*, It is the desire of the Trustees to comply with the provisions of the said Act of 1893 as to location and setting apart of lands for the benefit of an agricultural experiment station:

"*It is therefore resolved*, That the agricultural experiment station provided for in Section 1, of Shapter 4234, of the Laws of Florida, be and is hereby located in Osceola County at such point as may hereafter be selected.

"*Resolved further*, That the Salesman of this Board be and he is hereby directed to set apart a tract containing one hundred thousand acres of the lands granted to the State by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, as designated by said Salesman for the uses and purposes set forth in the said Act of June 2nd, 1893, Chapter 4234, Laws of Florida."

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

John McDougall, P. M., for stamped envelopes for Salesman's office, October 1897, eighty-nine and 12-100 dollars ($89.12.)

R. B. Gorman, P. M., postage for Salesman's office, &c., for August, 1897, fifty-three and 06-100 dollars ($53.06).

The H. & W. B. Drew Co., for blanks and maps for Salesman's office, thirty-two and 75-100 dollars ($32.75).

The Weekly Tallahasseean for land blanks, circulars and deeds for Salesman's office, eight and 98-100 dollars ($8.98).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 15, 1897.

The Board met in Executive Office at 11 o'clock a. m.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

John A. Henderson appeared and presented an application to the Board for a settlement and adjustment of his accounts as Agent of the State for the selection of Swamp and Overflowed lands under the Swamp Land Act of Sept. 28th, 1850, up to the preesnt date.

And it appearing from the records of this Board that Mr. Henderson was employed as such Agent by the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, confirmed by resolution adopted on March 15th, 1884, at a compensation of two cents per acre upon all lands patented upon his selections, payable in any lands of the Fund according to the schedule prices for the sale of lands, which at the date of such resolution ranged from one dollar per acre for forty acres tracts to forty-five cents per acre for lands in bodies of twenty-five thousand acres or more

That under such contract there has been of such selections an area of more than three million, two hundred and fifty thousand acres patented to the State.

That there is pending for confirmation an area of such selections of surveyed lands of more than one million, five hundred thousand acres, located in the several counties of the State, and in addition thereto a selection has been made covering unsurveyed lands adjacent to the margin of Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades, aggregating, say, three million, four hundred thousand acres which are practically ready for patents.

That under the law the compensation or such payment is payable first to such Agent out of all lands when patented, and prior to the rights of all grantees, under grants, and that while compensation has been from time to time made to such Agent in lands at the more recent uniform price of one dollar per acre on patented selections, there will still be due to him and payable when patented the compensation on five to five million five hundred thousand acres of land, payable as aforesaid.

And it further appearing to the Board, That there are continuously arising between said Agent on account of his compensation, frictions with Land Grant Companies, over lands, prejudicial to the practical application of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands to the purpose of drainage, reclamation and internal improvement, by the Board.

And the said Henderson indicated to the Board that he would accept an area of said Swamp and Overflowed Lands that are unsurveyed and contiguous, and that are in estimated acreage of less area that the acreage he would be entitled to, even at the present prices, of one dollar per acre, as compensation in full for his account for services as such Agent to date, thus eliminating all questions arising therefrom and embarrassing to the further application of the lands to the purpose of the Act of Internal Improvement. The lands thus to be taken are embraced between the lines of existing surveys and the margins of the Okeechobee and tributaries, and are more particularly designated by what would be the projections of the existing lines of survey as follows:

	T. S.	R. E.
All unsurveyed fractional SE¼ Section 32, and S½ Section 33	40	32
All unsurveyed Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 17, 21, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34	41	32
All unsurveyed Sections 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33	42	30
All unsurveyed Sections 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36	42	31
All unsurveyed Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36	42	32
All unsurveyed Sections 7, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36	42	33

	T.	S.	R.	E.
All unsurveyed Sections 19, 30, 31, 32.....	42		34	
All unsurveyed Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, E½ and E½ W½ of Section 15, E½ and E½ NW¼ of Section 22, all Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, E½ of Section 27, NE¼ of Section 34, N½ of Section 35, N½ of Section 36.....	43		31	
All unsurveyed Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, N½ and SE¼ of Section 15, all Sections 17, 18, 24, 25, 36.....	43		32	
All unsurveyed Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36.....	43		33	
All unsurveyed Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34....	43		34	
All unsurveyed Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.....	44		33	
All unsurveyed Sections 3, 4, 5, 6.....	44		34	

That the Board accepts the proposition of said Agent, John A. Henderson, and

Therefore it is Resolved, That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration be and he is hereby directed to withdraw from sale and further disposal by this Board, and that when patented to the State, the Board will convey to the said Henderson, or to his assigns, the lands of said list as above in full settlement of his compensation for services as State Agent for the selection of Swamp and Overflowed Lands accruing or to accrue to the State under the Act of Congress of Sept. 28, 1850, up to the date of this resolution.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 22, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following letter was read:

"St. Augustine, Florida, November 18th, 1897.

"To His Excellency Governor Bloxham,

"Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir: We expect to have the canal connecting the Indian River with Lake Worth completed in a few days and in consequence beg to apply for the appointment of an Engineer by your Board to inspect and report upon the work. It would be a great satisfaction to the officers of this Company if some members of the Board of Trustees could make it convenient to accompany your engineer, as it would enable your Board to form an opinion as to the importance of the enterprise we have in hand.

"Yours truly,

"GEORGE F. MILES,

"President and General Manager.

It was ordered that the Secretary inform Mr. Miles that the Board does not see the necessity for an immediate inspection.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 29, 1897.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary presented and read the following letter from George F. Miles:

"St. Augustine, Florida, November 26th, 1897.

"Hon. Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Talahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from your Secretary dated 23rd instant stating that the Board does not see any necessity for an immediate inspection of our canal between Jupiter and Lake Worth. I beg, however, to call your attention to the clause in the Act relating to this Company passed at the last session of the Legislature, which limits the time for the completion of the above mentioned canal to December 31st, 1897. My reason therefore for asking for an inspection at this time is to satisfy the Board that we have complied with the conditions imposed by this Act.

"Yours respectfully,

"GEORGE F. MILES.

"President and General Manager."

The Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Miles "that in the opinion of the Board there is no necessity for an inspection of the portion of the Canal between Jupiter and Lake Worth until the entire Canal is completed, and that if that portion thereof is found to be completed when the canal is finally inspected it will be considered as having been finished within the time specified by law, *as per your report,* and no question as to time of completion will be raised. If however, your Company desires that such inspection shall be made at once, the Board will, upon the receipt by its Treasurer of one hundred and twenty-five dollars, which is the cost of inspection, designate an Engineer for that purpose."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 7, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer reported that he had purchased six (6) Florida 7 per cent. bonds, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, numbered 291, 292, 293, 294, 295 and 1024, for the Sinking Fund Florida Railroad Bonds, for the sum of six hundred and fifty-four dollars ($654.00); and that he had also purchased two (2) Florida 7 per cent. bonds, of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, numbered 1025 and 1026, for the Sinking Fund Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Bonds, for the sum of two hundred and eighteen dollars ($218.00), making a total of eight hundred and seventy-two dollars ($872.00); and his action in purchasing said bonds was approved.

It was ordered that the sum of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) be paid to Hon. George P. Raney, General Counsel, on account of professional services.

The following bills were ordered paid:

Florida Times-Union and Citizen, for descriptive article in special South Florida and Christmas edition, five hundred dollars ($500.00).

John McDougall, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's office, three 80-100 dollars ($3.80-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 4, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following accounts were ordered paid:

John McDougall, Postmaster, for postage, etc., for Salesman's office to February 1st, 1898, sixty-eight 62-100 dollars, ($68. 62-100).

The Weekly Tallahassean, for printing 500 lists of "I. I." lands, eleven dollars ($11.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 16, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.

Capt. R. E. Rose appeared before the Board for the purpose of ascertaining the views of the Trustees as to their willingness to enter into a drainage contract upon such terms and conditions as might be mutually agreed upon, and, after due consideration, the Secretary was directed to write the following letter expressing the views of the Board:

Tallahassee, Fla., February 16th, 1898.

"Hons. J. R. Parrott, J. E. Ingraham, J. E. Murray, J. M. Schumacher, G. R. Pride and R. E. Rose.

"St. Augustine, Fla.

"Gentlemen: I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to say that they, as such Trustees, are willing to enter into a drainage contract for the drainage of the following territory, to wit:

"All of the unsurveyed lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying and being situate south of the Township line dividing townships forty-six and forty-seven south and east of the range line dividing ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven East, and north of the township line dividing townships 58 and 59 South and West of the range line dividing ranges forty-one and forty-two East to the north line of township 52 South, and thence west of a line following the exterior lines of the Government survey as shown by State Map, furnished by the Commissioner of Agriculture, to the dividing line between townships fifty-eight and fifty-nine South.

The conditions upon which they are willing to enter into this contract may be briefly summarized as follows:

"Out of said territory are to be reserved:

"1st. All school lands.

"2d. All lands reserved for the East Coast Canal.

"3d. All lands covered by certificates issued to any railroads describing lands in said territory.

"4th. All lands held by actual settlers at the date of the contract.

"5th. About ten thousand acres of land to be reserved in the neighborhood of Pine Island and Seven Prophets for the use and benefit of the Miami tribe of Indians.

"In conveying the lands under the contract no less than twenty thousand acres (20,000) are to be embraced in any one deed; and before the conveyance of said land, the Board is to be satisfied by an examination, by an engineer selected by the Board, that at least two hundred thousand (200,000) cubic yards of excavation for drainage purposes have been made in a scientific and proper manner looking to the drainage of the twenty thousand acres of land in connection with the general drainage scheme to be provided for in the contract. In addition thereto and before a deed of conveyance is issued for any lands, the Board is to receive twenty-five cents ($0.25) per acre for each acre of land to be conveyed under the proposed contract as aforesaid. Work is to be commenced in the drainage operations within one year from the date of the contract and carried on with reasonable diligence, and not less than one hundred thousand cubic yards of earth is to be moved in each year in the work of drainage. This, as I have before stated, is a brief summary of the basis upon which the Trustees are willing to enter into an agreement for the drainage and reclamation of the lands specified above and inuring to the State under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850.

"Very respectfully,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary and Treasurer Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of Florida."

The following resolution, *in re* Florida East Coast Railway, was adopted:

Resolved, That all the lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying, and being south of township 58 South, and situated on the mainland of this State, be and the same are hereby reserved for the benefit of the Florida East Coast Railway Company, reserving the rights of actual settlers now on the lands so set apart and reserved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 18, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication and the attached certified copy of a decree of the Supreme Court were read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., February 18th, 1898.

"Hon. W. D. Bloxham, Governor, et als,
"Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.
City.

"Gentlemen: Enclosed please find certified copy of the decree of the Supreme Court, in the case of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Co., appellants, vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, et als, on appeal in chancery from Putnam County Circuit Court, dismissing the appeal.

"I would advise that this decree be entered upon the minutes of the Trustees.

"The Commissioner of Agriculture has the agreement between the appellant company and the Trustees, upon which this dismissal has been made.

"Yours very truly,

GEO. P. RANEY,
"Atty. Trustees I. I. Fund Fla."

"Supreme Court of Florida /
"January Term, A. D. 1898. \
"Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway Company,
Appellant.

"vs.

"E. A. Perry, Governor.
"W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.
"C. L. Mitchell, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.
"E. S. Crill, Treasurer.
"C. M. Cooper, Attorney General.
"Ex-officio Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund
"of the State of Florida:
"The Florida Southern Railway Company;
"The Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad Company;
"and the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation
"Company,
"Appellees.

Putnam County.

"Upon motion of the attorney of record for the appellant herein, it is ordered that the appeal entered and taken by the appellant from the decree of the Circuit Court for Putnam County, of the 27th day of August, 1888, be and the same is dismissed at the cost of the apellant."

"I, B. B. Wilson, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Florida, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an order made by the Supreme Court in the above entitled cause on the ninth day of February A. D. 1898, as the same appears upon the minutes of said Court in my custody.

"In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Supreme Court, at Tallahassee, this 14th day of February, A. D. 1898.

"(Signed) B. B. WILSON,
"Clerk Supreme Court, State of Florida."

Seal
Supreme Court
State of Florida.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 25, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Times-Union and Citizen for descriptive article, &c., in special Eastern, Western and Middle Florida Edition, Five hundred dollars ($500.00).

John McDougall, Postmaster, for postage, &c., Salesman's office, February 1898, Twenty-six dollars ($26.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 20, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following accounts were presented and ordered paid:

John McDougall, Postmaster, postage, &c. for Salesman's office for March 1898, Thirteen 90-100 dollars ($13.90-100).

Isaac Dent, *et al.,* sundry incidental expenses for offices of Salesman and Secretary, one hundred and twenty-three 25-100 dollars ($123.25-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 3, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The matter of executing a drainage contract on the basis of the letter written to J. R. Parrott, *et als* February 16, 1898, was taken up, and a form of contract, prepared by the Secretary of the Board, with amendments thereto acceptable to the Board of Trustees, was agreed upon, and ordered prepared for execution.

An account of J. McDougall, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's office for April 1898, amounting to thirty-five 06-100 dollars ($35.06) was presented, and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 9, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following drainage contract, executed by and between J. R. Parrott, *et als*, and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, June 29th, 1898, was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"THESE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT, made and entered into this the 29 day of June A. D. 1898, by and between J. R. Parrott, James E. Ingraham, Rufus E. Rose, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride, and E. M. Ashley, parties of the first part, and W. D. Blox-

ham, Governor of Florida, W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller, W. B. Lamar, Attorney General, J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer, and L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture of said State; ex-officio the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, as such Trustees, parties of the second part:

"WITNESSETH, that the parties of the first part for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns agree and bind themselves unto the parties of the second part and their successors, to undertake the drainage and reclamation, at their own expense and charge, of all the swamp and overflowed lands in the State of Florida, practically or reasonably susceptible of being drained, and lying and being situate south of the township line dividing townships forty-six and forty-seven south, and east of the range line dividing ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven east, and north of the township line dividing townships fifty-eight and fifty-nine south, and west of the range line dividing ranges forty-one and forty-two east, to the north line of township fifty-two south, and thence west of a line following the exterior line of the government survey, as shown by a map of the State of Florida, marked Exhibit "A," and annexed hereto and made a part of this agreement, to the dividing line between townships fifty-eight and fifty-nine south; embracing all the unsurveyed lands within said territory which were granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850.

"IT IS EXPRESSLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED that the work and enterprise of draining and reclaiming said land, which is to be done by constructing cuts, dikes, and canals, and doing whatever else may be proper or necessary to that end, is to be begun, carried on, and continued, and prosecuted under the personal direction and supervision of a skilfull and experienced engineer, to be provided, maintained, and paid by the said parties of the first part; and the said parties of the first part are to have the right to throw up embankments, make and construct sluiceways and dikes, and cuts and canals, in, on and through any or all lands covered by this contract, or that may at the time of making of any such embankments, sluice-ways, dikes, cuts or canals, belong to said Internal Improvement Fund, and to use for such purposes any timber, earth, stone or other material on any of said lands.

"The parties of the first part further agree that they will, within six months from the execution and delivery of these presents, commence by suitable and competent engineers a survey and profile of levels for ascertaining and determining what portion, if any, and in what manner said lands can be permanently drained, and from time to time furnish the parties of the second part copies of the same, and that within one year from the signing of these articles, put into the actual work of draining these lands such force of men and machinery as shall be necessary to excavate for drainage purposes at the rate of at least two hundred thousand cubic yards of drainage canals per year, and will prosecute the work with reasonable diligence and in such manner that not less than two hundred thousand cubic yards of drains shall be excavated during each year in which this contract shall remain in force.

"It is further agreed by the parties of the first part that the work of draining and reclaiming of said land shall be begun and continued in accordance with a well defined drainage scheme which shall be prepared by the parties of the first part for that purpose, to be submitted to and approved by the parties of the second part.

"The said parties of the second part, for themselves, and their successors, as such Trustees, do agree and bind themselves and their successors in the administration of said trust, that they will, and their successors shall, convey by proper deed to the parties of the first part, their heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, the then existing title of the State to all of the unsurveyed lands now being in the territory covered by this agreement, or such portion thereof as may be paid for and earned as hereinafter provided, which were granted to the State of Florida under the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, such conveyance to be made upon the terms and conditions as hereinafter mentioned, and if thereafter any further patent or evidence of title shall be given the said State of Florida by the United States, such patent or title shall, as to such earned lands, be also conveyed to said first parties.

"1st. In addition the expenditure by the parties of the first part part that may be incident to the drainage and reclamation of said lands, the parties of the first part hereby obligate and bind themselves to pay to the parties of the second part the sum of twenty-five cents per acre

for each acre of land that shall be conveyed under this agreement.

"2d. No conveyance of land shall be made by the parties of the second part to the parties of the first part of less than twenty thousand acres, and before the conveyance of any tract of land of twenty thousand acres shall be made, two hundred thousand cubic yards of excavation for the drainage and reclamation purposes herein provided for, shall have been made in a proper and substantial manner looking towards the drainage of such twenty thousand acres of land in connection with the general drainage scheme herein provided for. Whenever it shall appear that any of said lands have been thus earned, and the said purchase price is tendered therefor, good and sufficient deed or deeds of the existing title of the State thereto, shall thereupon be made and executed therefor, in blocks as aforesaid, i. e., twenty thousand acres for each two hundred thousand cubic yards of excavation, and if further evidence of title or patent therefor shall thereafter be made to the State, such title or patent shall be also conveyed to said parties of the first part as soon as the same shall be issued and received. At the time the first or any subsequent conveyance hereunder shall be made, the parties of the first part shall execute and deliver to said parties of the second part good and sufficient bonds in an amount equal to one dollar per acre for the lands so conveyed, which bond shall be approved by said parties of the second part, and shall be conditioned that should the work of drainage and reclamation not thereafter continue annually as in this contract is stipulated and agreed, an additional sum of one dollar per acre shall be paid for the lands so conveyed as aforesaid, which bond shall also be and remain a security for the payment of such additional sum or sums. In the event said parties of the first part shall fail to perform the work as aforesaid, the total purchase price of the lands so conveyed shall be one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, instead of twenty-five cents as hereinbefore provided.

"3rd. In estimating the yardage of excavations made at any time by said parties of the first part, as herein provided, credit shall be given for any proper excavation made on other lands adjacent to those herein described which are deemed necessary for accomplishing the general purposes of the drainage in this contract contemplated, which

cuts, canals, or excavations on territory adjacent to the lands herein described found necessary to accomplish the drainage of the said territory shall be made subject to the general plan of drainage herein mentioned and approved by the parties of the second part. All yardage shall be certified to by an engineer appointed for that purpose by the parties of the second part, and who shall be appointed and make his report within thirty days after request upon the parties of the second part by the parties of the first part, before credit shall be given for the same.

"4th. That the limit of time during which the lands herein described shall be set apart and reserved for the benefit of said parties of the first part, their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, unless extension thereof is mutually agreed to, shall be seven years. Provided however that in the event of war, civil commotion or other unforeseen event, rendering it impracticable to proceed with the work hereby contemplated and herein provided for, the term of such necessary suspension shall not be deemed a portion of said time limit.

"5th. It is further agreed by the parties of the second part that they will ratify, confirm and approve a sale, transfer or assignment of the rights, title, interest, obligations, privileges, penalties and liabilities of the parties of the first part under this contract, to an incorporation duly organized and chartered under the laws of the State of Florida, for the purpose of carrying on the work of drainage and reclamation herein provided for, but the individual liabilities and obligations of the parties of the first part shall continue down to the time such assignment and transfer shall be fully completed and such liabilities and obligations properly and legally assumed by such assignee.

"6th. The following lands embraced in said drainage territory are reserved and excepted from this contract, and it is expressly understood that no part of said lands is to be conveyed to the parties of the first part under this agreement.

"(a) All lands reserved for the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company.

"(b) All land covered by certificates issued to any railroad company describing lands in said territory.

"(c) All lands occupied by actual settlers at the date of this agreement.

"(d) About ten thousand acres of land to be reserved

in the neighborhood of Pine Island and Seven Prophets for the use and benefit of the Miami tribe of Indians.

"(e) All school lands.

"7th. In case the title of the said parties of the second part to the lands, or any portion thereof, subject to this contract should fail and be finally declared by the courts not to have lawfully existed at the time any conveyances hereunder are made, said second parties shall thereupon refund to the parties paying the same hereunder, the actual cash purchase price paid for any such lands, title to which shall be pronounced bad as aforesaid.

"It is further agreed and understood by the parties hereto that all work shall be done in a substantial and first-class manner and that time is to be considered as of the essence of this contract as to commencing the actual work of drainage and reclamation of said territory.

"It is further agreed and understood that, for any failure on the part of the parties of the first part to comply with the terms or conditions of this agreement, the parties of the second part shall have and retain full authority and right to annul this agreement and to declare the same to be of no further effect, but in case of any disputed fact arising hereunder, the same shall be open to adjustment or determination by arbitration, such arbitration being by three arbitrators, one selected by either party and the third by the two so selected.

"IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the parties of the first part have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals, and the said trustees have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals, and have caused the seal of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed at the Capital in the City of Tallahassee, Florida, in duplicate, this 29th day of June, A. D. 1898.

"(Signed) RUFUS E. ROSE. (Seal.)
"(Signed) JAMES M. SCHUMACHER. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. S. MURRAY. (Seal.)
"(Signed) GUY R. PRIDE. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. R. PARROTT. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. E. INGRAHAM. (Seal.)
"(Signed) E. M. ASHLEY. (Seal.)

"Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of
THOS. W. WILSON.
R. C. COOLEY.
as to R. E. R., J. M. S., J. S. M., & G. R. P.
A. V. S. SMITH.
H. S. JENISON.
as to J. R. P. & J. E. I.
MARK J. TORELL.
J. L. SHELDON, JR.
as to E. M. A.

"(Signed) W. D. BLOXHAM. (Seal.)
Governor.
"(Signed) WM. H. REYNOLDS. (Seal.)
Comptroller.
"(Signed) J. B. WHITFIELD. (Seal.)
Treasurer.
"(Signed) W. B. LAMAR. (Seal.)
Attorney General.
"(Signed) L. B. WOMBWELL. (Seal.)
Commissioner of Agriculture."

"As to Trustees
W. M. McINTOSH, JR.
E. G. CHESLEY."

"State of New York. }
County of New York. }

"Personally appeared before me E. M. Ashley, to me personally known, and known to me to be one of the parties described in and who executed the foregoing instrument as one of the parties of the first part, and he duly acknowledged before me that he executed the same for the purposes therein expressed.

"Witness my hand and official seal this 24th day of June A. D. 1898.

"S. MARSHALL BUSSELLS,
"Notary Public State of New York. No. 190."

"State of Florida. }
County of Duval. }

"Personally appeared before me J. R. Parrott, to me personally known and known to me to be one of the parties described in and who executed the foregoing instrument as one of the parties of the first part, and he duly

acknowledged before me that he executed the same for the purposes therein expressed.

'Witness my hand and official seal this 28th day of June A. D. 1898.

"A. V. S. SMITH,
Notary Public State of Florida At Large."

Acknowledgements by all the other parties of first part except E. M. Ashley and J. R. Parrott omitted but appear in agreement.

Accounts were presented and ordered paid as follows:

J. McDougall, Postmaster, for postage, four dollars ($4.00).

L. B. Wombwell, Salesman, for amount paid to General Land Office, Washington, D. C., for copy of swamp land list No. 6, eighteen 48-100 ($18.48-100).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 24, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Accounts were presented and ordered paid as follows:

The Weekly Tallahasseean for book for Salesman's office, August 3, 1898, Two 25-100 dollars ($2.25-100).

John McDougall, Postmaster, for postage for Salesman's office January, 1898, Ten 90-100 ($10.90-100).

Geogre P. Raney, for Edgar P. Allen, for transcript of record in case of Vose vs. Reed, *et als.* in New York, Five 83-100 dollars ($5.83-100.)

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., September 7, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication from Hon. W. A. Blount, District Attorney for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Pensacola, Fla., Sept. 5th, 1898.

"To the Honorable, the Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sirs: As you are aware, the State of Florida by the 17th section of the charter of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Company, approved March 4th, 1881, granted to that company twenty thousand acres per mile for each mile that it should grade, cross-tie and iron of the lands granted to the State under the Act of Sept. 28th, 1850, the said lands to be of those nearest the line of said railroad and extensions and not otherwise granted.

"The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Co. has by due and regular conveyances become the owner of the rights of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Co. under this charter.

"It understands that the legislature has from time to time since March 4th, 1881, undertaken to grant lands which are necessary for the fulfilment of section seventeen of the charter of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Company to other railroads and that in accordance with such legislative grants your Honorable Board has from time to time made conveyances of such lands to such railroads.

"The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company assumes the position that it was not competent for the legislature to grant at any time after March 4th, 1881, any such lands to any railroad as alternate sections or other-otherwise.

"In accordance with this view, and understanding that there may soon arise an occasion when your Honorable Board will be asked to reserve or to make conveyances of

alternate sections to a railroad to which a grant has been made subsequent to the charter of the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad Co., I beg, on behalf of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, to request that when such application is made, notice shall be given to me in order that I may present the views of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Co. in opposition to the reservation of such lands or the patening or other conveyance of the same.

"Yours very truly,

"(Signed) W. A. BLOUNT,

"D. A."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR. Secretary.

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 3, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following instrument evidencing the sale and transfer of all the rights, privileges and obligations under the drainage contract of June 29, 1898, of J. R. Parrott, *et als.* to the Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company, together with the acceptance of all the provisions of said contract on the part of the Florida East Coast Drainage Company, were read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"THIS INDENTURE made this 30th day of June, A. D. 1898, witnesseth, that J. R. Parrott, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride, of Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida; James E. Ingraham of St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida; Rufus E. Rose, of Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida, and E. M. Ashley, of Lockport, New York, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other valuable considerations to us in hand paid by Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company, a corporation existing under the laws of Flor-

ida, have sold, and by these presents do sell, transfer, assign, and set over, unto said Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company, a certain contract for the drainage and reclaiming of certain swamp and overflowed lands in said State of Florida, lying and being situate south of the township line dividing townships forty-six and forty-seven south, and east of the range line dividing ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven east, and north of the township line dividing townships fifty-eight and fifty-nine south, and west of the range line dividing ranges forty-one and forty-two east, to the north line of township fifty-two south, and thence west of a line following the exterior line of the government survey, as substantially shown by a map of the State of Florida, marked Exhibit A, and annexed hereto and made a part of this instrument, to the dividing line between townships fifty-eight and fifty-nine south; embracing all the unsurveyed lands within said territory which were granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, being more particularly described in said contract, which said contract was made and executed between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida and the assignors herein the 29th day of June A. D. 1898: To Have and to Hold the same unto the said Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company, its successors and assigns forever, for its and their use and benefit forever; subject, nevertheless to the covenants, conditions, and payments, therein mentioned, and to all and singular the obligations, penalties and liabilities to which we are or may become subject pursuant to the terms thereof against which the said Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company agrees to hold us and our heirs, and personal representatives forever harmless.

"And we hereby authorize and empower the said Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company, upon its performance of the said covenants and conditions, to demand and receive of the said trustees, or their successors in office representing the State of Florida in the premises, the deeds or other evidences of title covenanted to be given in the said contract, in the same manner and to the

same extent, to all intents and purposes, as we ourselves might, or could do, were these presents not executed.

"In witness whereof, we have hereunto affixed our hands and seals the day and year first above written.

"(Signed) JAMES M. SCHUMACHER. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. S. MURRAY. (Seal.)
"(Signed) GUY R. PRIDE. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. R. PARROTT. (Seal.)
"(Signed) J. E. INGRAHAM. (Seal.)
"(Signed) RUFUS E. ROSE. (Seal.)
"(Signed) E. M. ASHLEY. (Seal.)

"Signed, sealed, and delivered
in presence of us.
THOS. W. WILSON.
W. M. STOCKTON.
as to J. M. S., J. S. M., G. R. P., J. R. P.
& R. E. R.

J. P. T. INGRAHAM.
LOUIS LARSON.
as to J. E. I.

MARK J. TORELL.
J. L. SHELDON, JR.
as to E. M. A.

"State of Florida. }
County of Duval. }

"On this day personally appeared before me J. R. Par rott, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride, and Rufus E. Rose, all to me personally known as five of the persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and each and all severally acknowledged that they executed the same for the purpose therein expressed.

"Witness my hand and official seal this 30th day of June A. D. 1898.

"THOS. W. WILSON. (Seal.)
"Notary Public State of Florida."

"State of Florida. }
County of St. Johns. }

"On this day personally appeared before me James E. Ingraham, to me personally known as one of the persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument,

and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purpose therein expressed.

"Witness my hand and official seal this 22d day of August A. D. 1898.

"W. W. DEWHURST. (Seal.)
"Notary Public State of Florida."

"State of New York. }
County of Niagara. }

"On this day personally appeared before me E. M. Ashley, to me personally known as one of the persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purpose therein expressed.

"Witness my hand and official seal this 20 day of July A. D. 1898.

(Seal.) "GEO. G. MOSS,
"Notary Public."

"State of Florida. }
County of St. Johns. }

"This Indenture made and executed on this the Thirtieth day of June A. D. 1898, Witnesseth that the Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company hereby accepts the transfer and assignment made by J. R. Parrott, James E. Ingraham, Rufus E. Rose, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride, and E. M. Ashley, parties of the first part to the contract and agreement made on the 29th day of June, A. D. 1898, by and between the said J. R. Parrott, James E. Ingraham, Rufus E. Rose, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride, and E. M. Ashley, and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and hereby agrees and acknowledges itself to be as fully bound by the terms of said contract and agreement with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida as if this Company had been a party thereto at the time of its execution.

"FLORIDA EAST COAST DRAINAGE AND SUGAR COMPANY.

"By A. G. HAMLIN. (Seal.)
"President."

"Attest: A. V. S. SMITH, Secretary."

The Trustees then executed the following instrument ratifying, confirming and approving the sale and transfer subject to the terms of the original agreement.

"We, the undersigned Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, pursuant to the terms of the original contract and agreement made on the 29th day of June A. D. 1898, by and between the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and J. R. Parrott, James E. Ingraham, Rufus E. Rose, James M. Schumacher, J. S. Murray, Guy R. Pride and E. M. Ashley, do hereby ratify, confirm and approve the foregoing sale, transfer and assignment of the rights, title, interest, obligations, privileges, penalties and liabilities, of the parties of the first part to the original contract and agreement above mentioned, to an incorporation organized and chartered under the laws of the State of Florida, for the purpose of carrying on the work of drainage and reclamation as therein provided for, known as the Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company. It is distinctly understood that the said Florida East Coast Drainage and Sugar Company is bound by the original contract and agreement as fully and completely as if the said Company had been a party thereto and that no change in the terms of said contract and agreement has been made or consented to by the undersigned, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Dated at Tallahassee, Florida, this Third day of October, A. D. 1898.

"W. D. BLOXHAM,
"Governor. (Seal.)
"WM. H. REYNOLDS,
"Comptroller. (Seal.)
".....
"Attorney General.
"J. B. WHITFIELD,
"Treasurer. (Seal.)
"L. B. WOMBWELL,
"Commissioner of Agriculture. (Seal.)
"Being Ex-officio The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida."

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"St. Augustine, Fla., July 22, 1898.

"Trustees Internal Improvement Fund,

"Tallahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen: I am instructed by the Board of Directors to say to you that all expenses of the engineers employed by your board to examine and report on the work performed by this Company, as provided for in the recently executed contract with your Board, will be paid by this Company.

"Respectfully,

"(Signed.) R. E. ROSE,

"Secretary of Florida East Coast Drainage & Sugar Co."

Bill of John McDougall, P. M., for postage for Salesman's Office in September, 1898, amounting to One hundred and six 72-100 Dollars, ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 16, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report from Hon. F. T. Christie, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Miccosukie, Fla., Nov. 14, 1898.

"To the Hon. Board Trustees I. I. Fund,

"Gentlemen: Under the contract made with the Board on Nov. 9, 1896, I have the honor to report as follows:

For a year after the making of said contract I gave the protection promised to Miccosukie Lake and during that time collected two hundred dollars under said contract. Since that time I have been unable to render the protection for the reason that the greater portion of the Lake is in Jefferson county and cannot be protected under the laws of trespass in Florida. The above amount is all I

have collected under the contract as aforesaid and I hereby make this my final report.

"(Signed) F. T. CHRISTIE."

It being evident that the purpose of the contract executed by and between the Board of Trustees and Hon. F. T. Christie on November 9, 1896, could not be accomplished as originally intended, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the contract with F. T. Christie executed on November 9th, 1896, be and the same is hereby annulled.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 15, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following accounts were read and ordered paid:

J. McDougall, Postmaster, postage for Salesman's Office, November 1898, thirty-one 94-100 dollars ($31 94-100).

First National Bank of Tallahassee, for rent of box in vault from June 10th, 1898, to June 10, 1899, ten dollars ($10.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 16, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A communication was presented from Horatio Crain, asking that certain land entries be cancelled and the money received therefor be refunded. After considering the request of Mr. Crain, the Secretary was directed to reply as follows:

"Tallahassee, Fla., December 16, 1898.

"Mr. Horatio Crain,

"Key West, Fla.

"Dear Sir: Your favor of the 12th ult. addressed to the Governor as president of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, was presented by Mr. Geo. Lewis during the present week and at a meeting of the Board held this day I was directed to say in reply thereto that the land in question was patented to the State by the United States, and in 1884 and 1885 it was conveyed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida for eleven hundred and fifteen dollars and eighty-four cents and the proceeds thereof were expended by the Board in the liquidation of adjudicated claims and liabilities incurred in the due administration of the Trust, and there are no funds now available for the purpose of re-paying the purchase money; but the Board is willing to convey other lands in lieu thereof, and if lands not yet conveyed are selected the Board will direct conveyances thereof to be made to the extent of the original purchase at the schedule prices heretofore fixed. The Board is also willing, upon the filing of proper deeds of re-conveyance by the parties claiming title to the land under the conveyances made by the Trustees in 1884 and 1885, to quitclaim the land to the United States so that the title to the land will

revert back to where it was at the time the original patent was issued the General Land Office at Washington.

"Yours very truly,
"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,
"Secretary Board of Trusteees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 29, 1898.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.
W. H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report together with the accompanying maps and profiles, were presented to the Board and the report was ordered spread upon the minutes and is as follows:

"St. Augustine, Florida, December 16th, 1898.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees, of the Internal Improvement Fund, of the State of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida.

"Gentlemen: At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida East Coast Drainage & Sugar Company, held November 15th, 1898, the Secretary was directed to prepare copies of the maps, profiles, and report of the Superintendent, as to the surveys and levels recently made under his directions, and proposed system of drainage, and transmit the same to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund at Tallahassee, Florida, for their examination and approval, the plan of system proposed being of a general character and subject to modification or change, as developments occur. I therefore have the honor to transmit herewith copies of the said report, as to surveys, levels, and system of drainage

proposed, together with copies of maps, and profiles refered to.

"Very respectfully,

"R. E. ROSE.

"Secretary."

"Extract."

"President and Directors,

"Florida East Coast Drainage & Sugar Co.,

"Gentlemen: In accordance with your instructions, I proceeded July 6th to Miami, and inaugurated a preliminary survey and reconnoisance of the territory recently acquired by your Company, under contract with the State of Florida.

"I employed Messrs. George L. McDonald, J. S. Frederick, and Franklyn Sheen, Civil Engineers of repute, and much local knowledge, familiar with the class of work to be performed.

"They employed their own crews, and proceeded to run lines into the "Glades" from the western boundary of the U. S. Surveys, sounding the depth of the muck and soil, every five chains, noting its depth and character.

"Mr. MacDonald due west of Miami, between Townships 53 and 54.

"Mr. Frederick, west of Biscayne, between Townships 52 and 53.

"Mr. Sheen west of Modelo, between Townships 50 and 51.

"The maps and reports of these gentlemen accompany this report.

"The area embraced in this examination being some eighteen miles north and south, and from two to nineteen miles wide, averaging ten miles broad, or, an approximate area of 180 square miles of territory, while but a small part of this territory was actually surveyed and sounded, the general features of the enclosed area are fairly well established.

"In addition to the surveys by the Engineers named, I personally inspected the territory covered by Mr. MacDonald's report, west of Miami and the territory drained by "Snake Creek" west of Hallendale. I had examined this territory during the floods of September and October 1897, and noted the depth of water then existing on

the "Glades" (acknowledged to be as great as ever known). I then found the water from twelve to eighteen inches deep in the saw grass, shallowest towards the center of the "Glades," with decided current towards the East and Southeast.

"It will not be necessary or advisable to undertake the drainage of the entire area immediately. By enclosing with canals and dikes portions of the territory, as the work progresses and demand occurs, the whole can be eventually put into shape for agriculture. The dikes and their canals affording laterals and roads for the completed system.

"The whole system should show a dike and canal on the western and northern boundary of the territory, with eleven or more parallel main canals, flowing east into the various natural outlets from the Hillsborough to the southern boundary, with numerous laterals.

"A dike built on the higher ridges (shallowest muck) surrounding the territory operated in, will prevent overflow from the west and north until such time as the system is complete, when canals of ample size and sufficient number are cut to care for the rain fall of the entire district.

"I suggest the construction of two first class dipper dredges, of approved modern style by some first class dredge building company, one at Miami, to operate on the territory adjacent to the south fork on the Miami River.

"Another dredge should be built on Snake Creek to operate in the territory west of 'Hallendale' and 'Modelo.'

"I submit a report of the levels from the interior to the tide level. The *Mean* of three surveys, 6 ft. 11 inches, can be taken safely as the amount of fall from the head of the Rapids of the Miami River to tide water in Biscayne Bay, with a slope of seven (7) inches per mile on the surface of the "Glades" from the interior towards the Eastern outlets.

"From a practical standpoint; and after a careful personal examination of the territory from Miami to New River, I am justified in saying that the fall is ample to drain perfectfly, a territory not less than thirty (30) miles broad, west of the head waters of these streams, *always provided a sufficient number of canals, of a total*

cross section, equal to the aggregate cross section of the streams flowing out of this territory be provided. If this territory be diked on its northern and western boundaries, the enclosed area will be more quickly drained, and the water level maintained lower than if the "spill" from Lake Okeechobee be allowed to pass through the *interior* drainage canals.

"I suggest the cutting out and draining of sections of 100,000 acres each, 4 to 6 townships—as distinct operations. Beginning on the East and extending the drained territory westward.

"Respectfully submitted,
"R. E. ROSE,
"Superintendent."

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Florida Land and Improvement Company and referred to Hon. George P. Raney, General Counsel, who prepared the following reply thereto which was ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., December 29, 1898.

"Hon. W. D. Bloxham, Governor et als.

"Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Fla.

"Gentlemen: In regard to the lettter of the 20th inst. from Henry R. Zesinger, Secretary of Florida Land and Improvement Company, to Governor Bloxham, which has been referred to me I respectfully submit the following: The letter asks what disposition has been made of the deed from the Trustees of the I I. Fund, to the Great Southern Railway Company embracing designated lots in Sections 8 and 18, in Township 2 R. 28 (Duval County, Fla.) and states that the parties who purchased such lands from said company did so on the strength of the Company's assurance that such deed would be set aside or cancelled of record, as the company understands it is not valid. The letter also requests the Governor to take the matter up with the proper officials and endeavor to have the deed set aside or cancelled of record at an early date so that there will be no defect in the Company's title. The deed bears date December 1st, 1870, and purports that the Trustees by it and in consideration of the agreement and undertakings of the named railway company contained in an agreement entered into between such company and said Trustees on November 24th, 1870,

(in which agreement the company is obligated at its own expense to relieve certain lands vested in said Trustees from liability to overflow) and of one dollar in hand paid, grant and convey unto said company 102,407 17-100 acres of land lying in townships one and two of ranges 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, and Township 1 Range 25, and Township 1, Range 26, and Township 2 Ranges 27, 28, and 29. The lands in Sec. 8, T. 2, S. R. 28 E, covered by such deed are lots 1 to 16 inclusive excepting lot 4, and those in Sec. 18 same T. and R. are lots 1 to 20 inclusive excepting lots 2, 3, 4; and it may be stated here that the lots in said section 8 and 18 mentioned in Mr. Zesinger's letter are the same as those covered by the deed except lot 5 in Sec. 18.

"The *habendum* clause of the deed is as follows: 'To have and to hold the same' (meaning the land) 'unto said party of the second part' (meaning the Company) 'its successors and assigns forever in fee simple upon the express condition however that the said party of the second part within eighteen months from the 24th day of November, 1870, shall relieve the said land from liability to overflow otherwise the lands to revert to said party of the first partt' (said Trustees). The deed, was executed by the Governor as President and the Commissioner of Immigration as Secretary of the Trustees.

"The agreement of November 24th, 1870, was one purporting to have been entered into on that date between the Company and the Trustees. It is in the shape of a written proposition from the Company (which was incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida by an act of the Legislature of February 10th, 1870, to construct a railroad from the St. Mary's River in said State to Key Biscayne or the most available harbor in thaat vicinity) to the Trustees and purports to have been accepted by the latter on the date stated, all members of the Board being present except S. B. Conover, Treasurer of the State and those voting in favor of the acceptance of the proposition being the Governor, Attorney General and Commissioner of Immigration, and those voting against acceptance being the Register or Surveyor General of the Public Lands and the Comptroller. There is a note on the margin of the record of this meeting made by the Secretary of the Board (the Commissioner of Im-

migration) to the effect that on the 28th day of said month of November the Treasurer, S. B. Conover, personally appeared and desired his vote to be recorded in favor of the acceptance of said proposition and that it is so recorded. The proposition states that a sound policy requires the settlement and cultivation of the lands along the line of road, and that these lands known as swamp and overflowed lands 'now vested in the Trustees' are from their liability to overflow of comparatively little value, and that they may be settled and cultivated the Company proposes to said Trustees to relieve from inundation and liability to overflow all the lands on the line of its road on each side thereof for the distance of ten miles back, and that in considerationn for so relieving said lands for the distance from the road stated, the Company shall receive from the Trustees from and out of every ten miles fronting on each side of said road, *as the said ten miles are completed,* a conveyance of eight adjoining miles fronting on said road and running back ten miles; (there being a provision as to the contingency of a deficiency of said land not necessary to be mentioned now). 'Provided however for the proper encouragement of the work the Company will require that eight miles on each side of the line of the road and running back ten miles for the first ten miles along the line of the road commening at Jacksonville and running northwardly along the said line of the road shall be at once conveyed to the Company, upon the express condition however, that the same shall within eighteen months be relieved from liability to overflow.' It is provided further that the lands named along the line of the road shall be retired by the Trustees from market or sold only to actual settlers and when sold the portion to which the Company shall be entitled of the proceeds of sale of $1.25 per acre to be set apart and held in trust for said Company until such time as the Company would have been entitled to such land had the sale not taken place. After making provision for changes in the line of the road and as to land relieved from overflowed out to 15 miles it is provided that if the portion of the railroad between Jacksonville and St. Mary's River shall not be completed within two years and that portion between Jacksonville and

Palatka within four years and that portion between Palatka and the southern terminus of the road within 8 years from the date of such agreement then in either event the Trustees should be relieved from any and every obligation thereunder not discharged at the time of such failure. At the same meeting a resolution was passed by the same vote authorizing the President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees to make conveyances to the Company of such land as it might be entitled to from time to time under such accepted proposition.

"On Nov. 26th ,1870, it was resolved by the Trustees that the above proposition was intended to apply and did apply to conveyances of 8 miles on each side of the line of the road to be made under such agreement. The vote in favor thereof being that of the Governor, Attorney-General and Commissioner of Immigration, and the Surveyor General voting against and no other member of the Board being present.

"On Jany. 16th, 1872, at a meeting of the Trustees at which the Governor, Treasurer and Comptroller and Commissioner of Immigration, were present a resolution which was voted for by the Governor, Comptroller and Treasurer, and against by the Commissioner of Immigration, was passed resolving that the above resolution of Nov. 24th, 1870, be and is rescinded, and that notice thereof be duly given to all parties interested and to the legislature then in session. Among the grounds recited in such resolution as reasons for such rescinding of the resolution of Nov. 24th, 1870. are that it was not adopted by a majority of the Board in regular meeting assembled and that no work had yet been done in fulfillment of the conditions of the grant nor any evidence of the purpose or of the ability of the Company to do so manifested

"On Feby. 3rd, 1873, Hon. T. W. Osborn presented to the Board an exposition of the prospects and situation of the Great Southern Railway Company with a view of asking a grant of lands from the State to promote the construction of the Railway, and the same was referred to a committee; and on the 8th day of the same month Mr. Osborn presented a proposition on behalf of said Company to build the road according to the specifications of the I. I. Act, and to purchase from the Board certain lands; and on March 13th, 1873, he presented a proposition which after being considered also on the 15th, 17, 19

and 20th of said month was agreed to by the Trustees and the Company through said Osborn. This Agreement bears date March 20th, 1873, and by it the Company agrees to construct a railroad under its charter from a point at or near King's Ferry on St. Mary's River in Florida to Key West with certain branches within 10 years from June 4th, 1872. The contract gives the specification and provides that the Company shall pay the Trustees in lawful money for all lands sold and conveyed under the agreement and at a price subsequently named in the agreement upon the execution of deeds and to deposit with the Board a map showing the line of the road within 12 months. And the Trustees agree as follows: When 10 miles of the said road shall be constructed and in running order under the terms of the agreement they will, from the lands then vested in them, from the even numbered sections, along or nearest the said 10 miles, on either side, sell and convey unto the Company and in consideration of $6400.00 lawful money 128,000 acres of land and upon the construction of each additional 10 miles of road and at the same price will sell and convey to the Company a like number of acres of land from the even numbered sections along and nearest thereto and on either side of the road and then vested in said Trustees; there being a proviso however that the fact of such construction of each 10 miles shall be established by the certificate of the Governor and of the Engineer of the Company and sworn statement of the President and Secretary of the Company. The minutes of the meeting of April 4th, 1874, show that said Osborn as President of said Company transmitted under date of the 18th of the previous month a map and plan showing the route of said railway and that the same had been received and filed on the 19th, of said previous month of March. An April 19th, 1875, the minutes of the Board show a letter to have been received from President Osborn requesting that floats should be issued for the lands accruing to the Company for the construction of the road from the St. Mary's River to Jacksonville on the ground that there was not sufficient land to the north of Jacksonville belonging to the Fund to enable the Trustees to comply with their contract; and it appears that the Secretary of the Board was directed to inform Mr. Osborn that the Trustees declined to change the terms of the contract and that when 10 miles of said

road were completed the Company would be permitted to purchase the stipulated number of acres nearest the road.

"It is a fact that as early as May 1873, the Trustees began selling the lands covered by the above agreements and deed of 1870 and have since continued to sell them as opportunity offered until about all of them have long since been disposed of, and there has not been any reservation of the proceeds for the benefit of the Company. There was, may be remarked, the sale of one 40 acre tract in 1871. The conveyance under which the Florida Land and Improvement Company claims the land mentioned in the letter of Mr. Zesinger, its secretary, was executed upwards of 15 years ago. The above statement of facts is taken from the records of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

"At the time the contracts of November 24th, and 26th, 1870, and the deed of Dec. 1st, 1870, were executed there were six Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, to-wit: The Governor, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney-General, Surveyor-General and Commissioner of Immigration; see Chapter 610 approved Jany. 6th, 1855, Chapter 1692, approved Feby. 1st, 1869 and Chapter 1727 approved June 23rd, 1869, Laws of Florida and constitution of 1868 section one article seven. It required the concurrence and affirmative action of at least four of such Trustees to do any valid act affecting the Fund or property committed to their trust. There is nothing in the statutes creating such Trustees and regulating their powers or in the practical construction of the law, that sustains a different conclusion. Only three Trustees voted in favor of adopting the proposition or contract or authorizing the execution of the deed by the President and Secretary of the Board. The memorandum as to the Treasurer of Nov. 28th, 1870, is not shown to have been participated in or to have even had the cognizance of any one but himself and the Commissioner of Immigration. A meeting and the concurrent action of at least four members was necessary to cure or ratify any defect in the attempted action of November 24th and 26th, of three members of the Board. My opinion is that such contract and deed never were of any validity and this was obviously the conclusion reached subsequently by the Trustees themselves as shown by the proceedings at their meeting of January 6th, 1872, and as also shown by the subsequent conduct of

the Company, as set out above in dealing with the Trustees as to such land in a manner that is irreconcilable with the idea of the Company's claiming any title to the land under such contract and deed of 1870. Of course the resolution of January 16th, 1872, is characterized by the same deficiency as those of Nov. 1870, only three members of the Board having voted affirmatively in favor of such rescinding resolution and hence such resolution was not of itself effective in law to impair or destroy any validity, had there been any, in the contract attempted to be rescinded, yet it seems to have been followed by results that recognize upon the part of both the Trustees and the Company the invalidity of such former acts.

"The action of the Railway Company in February 1873 (which was less than nine months after the expiration of the eighteen months conditional period named in the contract and deed of 1870) and in the succeeding March, in proposing and consummating the contract of March 20th, 1873, is conclusive evidence that the Company did not then claim or pretend to assert any right to the lands under the contract of November 1870 or the deed of that year. This contract of 1873 proposes to buy from the Trustees the even numbered sections of the lands covered by the contract and deed of 1870 and the construction by the Company of the same line of road contemplated by the contract and deed of 1870 was an inducement and part of the consideration to the sale by the Trustees. The latter contract also implicitly recognizes the right of the Trustees to continue selling as conveyance was to be made only of such lands as should be vested in the Trustees at the time of the Company being entitled to any conveyance. Of course none of the railroad contemplated by such contracts and deed has ever been built notwithstanding the limitation of time for building the same. If we assume that such deed and contract of 1870 were valid it is still obvious that the scheme contemplated by them was abandoned by both the Trustees and the Company, and it is entirely justifiable to conclude from the conduct of both that the invalidity of such contract and deed was conceded by both parties and was a moving cause of such abondonment.

"Again the deed is clearly one that conveyed the land upon a condition subsequent as is shown by its *habendum clause* quoted above and by the contract of which it was a

part. Where there is a failure on the part of a grantee to comply with such a condition the remedy of the grantor for divesting title out of the grantee and re-investing itself with the title is by re-entry of the grantor upon the land or by some equivalent act. That there was no compliance by the Company with the terms of the contract by the construction at any time of any part of the railroad or with the condition as to relieving the land from overflow within the 18 months or at all is indisputable as a fact independent of the clearly corroborative evidence found in the conduct of the Railway Company given above. The action of the Trustees in resuming the sale of the land and not making any reservation of the proceeds in favor of the Company was equivalent to a re-entry upon the land for the purposes of re-investing itself with the title and the subsequent dealing between the Trustees and the Company as to such land are also evidence of the Trustees having asserted their right to the land and of a recognition by the Company of their having done so.

"In my opinion the deed of December 1st, 1870, is of no effect against the Trustees or any one claiming under them, and constitutes no reason why the Trustees should not have sold the land and does not impair the title of the Florida Land and Improvement Company and is no reason why such Company's proposed purchaser should not accept its deed and pay for the land.

"The Trustees of the I. I. Fund having disposed of the land cannot maintain any proceeding either in law or equity as to such deed; and if the Trustees were still the owners of the land it is not clear, even upon the assumption that there was ever any validity to such deed, that the Trustees could maintain any proceedings to do away with the same, they having taken action tantamount to a re-entry upon the land. If any action can be taken at all it must be done by the Florida Land and Improvement Company, the owners of the land. Whether or not there is now any existing organization of the Great Southern Railway Company I am not personally aware and can only say that the last act upon its part that I have any information as to is the contract of March 20th, 1873, and Osborn's letter of April, 1875. My understanding is that it is an entirely defunct concern. Col. T. W. Osborn whose name appears in connection with the last mention-

ed contract died, according to the statement of newspapers, a few days ago in New York. I believe that a due consideration of the above matter would dictate that it should be left at rest unless it should be deemed advisable by the Company to place upon the record of Duval County a succinct statement by the Trustees, under their seal, of the above facts, which statement I will cheerfully prepare if desired by the Trustees or the Florida Land and Improvement Company.

"I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

"GEO. P. RANEY."

The petition of H. S. English, *et als.*, in relation to the existing condition of the Caloosahatchie River and asking that the Trustees endeavor to have the Okeechobee Drainage Company close the canal between Lake Okeechobee and Lake Hickpochee, was read and ordered filed for future reference.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 4, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following bills were presented and ordered paid:

Judge George P. Raney, General Counsel, on account of professional services, One thousand dollars ($1,000.00).

P. D. Cassidy, Clerk Circuit Court of Duval County, for certified copy of deed to Great Southern Railway, Three dollars ($3.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., January 26, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Florida Construction Company
"Leon Hotel Building,
"Tallahassee, Florida, Jany. 23d, 1899.

"To the Board of Internal Improvements of the State of Florida.

"Gentlemen: I would respectfully request the inspection by your Engineer of the first twenty-mile section of the Tallahassee South-Eastern Railroad, now completed and ready for operation to Thomas City.

"Respectfully,
"R. L. BENNETT,
"Genl. Mgr. and Chief Engr."

In compliance with the foregoing request Mr. Overton Bernard, C. E., was selected as State Engineer to inspect and report upon the construction of the Tallahassee and South-Eastern Railroad and the Secretary was directed to so notify Mr. Bernard and to give him the necessary instructions under the direction of the President of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., February 16, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
J. B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report of Overton Bernard, State Engineer, was presented, approved and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., 6th Feby, 1899.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees I. I. Fund.

"Sirs: According to your instructions I have examined the 20 miles of road recently constructed by the Tallahassee and South Eastern Railroad Company, and respectfully report as follows:

"The road begins from the St. Marks R. R. about 1 &3-4 miles from the F. C. & P. Depot and is connected with this road by switch; they have also put in crossing frog and have laid rail about 200 feet Northerly on the road bed to Tallahassee.

"The road is standard guage and was graded in 1891, and the first six miles of rails put down. The road was well constructed and all embankments being full 14 feet wide at grades with slopes of 1½ to 1, excavations 20 feet at grade with slopes of 1 to 1.

"The six miles was laid with first class 56 lb. steel rails, properly spiked and fastened with angle plates and bolts. The cross ties should have been renewed, this has been partially done and new ties scattered along the road to replace those which are yet to come out.

"The remaining 14 miles is laid with first class 56 lb. and 60 lb. relaying steel rails in good condition, properly spiked and fastened with angle plates and bolts. The road-bed has been somewhat washed by rains lessening the width at grade lines and increasing width at base, but not seriously impairing the road-bed. It would take but a short time with construction train to put embankments in first class condition. Right of way is cleared 120 feet wide 60 feet each side of centre line of track. No curves exceed 3 degrees. Maximum grade is 53.8 feet per mile only used on the first 7 miles, beyond this the grades are very light.

"Trestles are 4 pile bents 12½ feet centre to centre with the exception of some small water ways which are frame bents 12½ feet centres and timber wall abutments. Single stringers are used 12x14 inches, caps and posts 12x12 inches, cross ties 6x8 inches x8 feet, guard rails, 6x8 inches.

"Cross ties are cypress and yellow pine 6 inches x 8½ in. by 8½ feet and laid 22½ inches between centres.

"They have as yet no equipments except a work train consisting of one engine and 6 flat cars. They have one foreman and force of hands now at work on the road besides the train crew consisting of engineer, fireman and train hands. Their Engineer corps is now in the field establishing the line to Perry and I learned were near that point.

"I approve and recommend the acceptance of this section of twenty miles with the understanding that the embankments are to be filled in before the inspection of the next twenty miles and reported on at that time.

"Respectfully submitted,

"O. BERNARD,

"State Engineer."

A communication from J. E. Ingraham relative to making a survey of township 60 south of Range 37 East, was read and the Secretary was directed to reply thereto that the Trustees has no authority to direct the survey to be made and that all such matters were under the supervision of the United States Surveyor General.

The following accounts were presented and ordered paid:

O. Bernard for services as State Engineer, inspecting twenty miles of the Tallahassee and South Eastern Railroad, one hundred and twenty-five dollars and for horse hire in inspecting beyond the constructed road, one 50-100 dollars, making a total of one hundred and twenty-six 50-100 dollars.

John McDougall, P. M., for postage for Salesman's Office, in January 1899, Forty-three dollars ($43.00.)

Weekly Tallahasseean, for printing list of I. I. lands twelve 50-100 ($12.50.)

W. D. Hartt, for mounting maps for Salesman's office, three dollars ($3.00.)

Morning News, for letter heads for Trustees, twenty-three dollars ($23.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., March 2, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfiled, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The bills of Isaac Dent, as Janitor for Salesman and Secretary, from April 1st, 1898. to March 1st, 1899, amounting to forty-four dollars ($44.00) were read and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla.. April 1, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
W. B. Lamar, Attorney Genedal.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that he had purchased out of the funds for the Relief of Bonded Counties, four (4) Leon County bonds of the denomination of five hundred dollars, each, numbered sixty-eight (68), ninety-six (96), ninety-seven (97) and one hundred and thirty-nine (139), with interest thereon to April 1st, 1899, amounting to twenty dollars, aggregating for principal and interest the sum of two thousand and twenty dollars ($2,020 00-100) and the action of the Treasurer was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 14, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham. Governor.
William H. Reynolds. Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication from B. W. Partridge on behalf of himself and associates was presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Tallahassee, Fla., April 14th, 1899.

"To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

"Gentlemen: The undersigned, representing himself and associates, parties of the second part to an agreement made and entered into on the first day of January A. D. 1892, by and between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, parties of the first part and William G. Denham, and Benjamin W. Partridge, of Jefferson County, State of Florida, and James A. Marvin and Lawrence Haynes, of Duval County, Florida, and William P. Denham, of Leon County, Florida, parties of the second part, for the drainage and purchase of certain tracts or parcels of land known as Miccosukie Lake, and more particularly described in said agreement, respectfully petition that the time for compliance with the terms of said agreement, and all other conditions thereof, including the benefit of the payment of the five hundred dollars, which was made thereunder, be extended, renewed and continued in full force, as completely as if the extended time had been mentiond in the original agreement. for the period of three (3) years from the date hereof, with the exception that the purchase price of the land be reduced from one dollar to sixty cents per acre. In making this request, your petitioner would beg to call attention to the fact that the parties of the second part to said agreement have incurred large expenditures and lost thousands of dollars in efforts to drain the land and ask that the equities to which they feel that they are entitled, may be fully considered by the Board.

"B. W. PARTRIDGE."

After considering the foregoing application by B. W. Partridge for himself and associates it was

Resolved, That the extension asked for be granted subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in the application and that the Board hereby agrees to the reduction in the purchase price of the land from one dollar to sixty cents per acre. *Provided, however*, That this reduction shall not apply to the first five hundred acres of land which shall be conveyed at the original contract price.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 1, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board stated that he had purchased from W. O. Tison six (6) Bradford County Bonds Nos. Fifty-two (52), Fifty-three (53) Fifty-five (55), Fifty-six (56), Fifty-seven (57) and Fifty-eight (58) of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, and one Bradford County Bond No. (73) Seventy-three, of the denomination of two hundred and fifty dollars, aggregating eight hundred and fifty dollars ($850.00), for which he had paid eight hundred and fifty dollars ($850.00), and the action of the Treasurer was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 2, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. R. L. Bennett appeared before the Board on behalf of the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company and stated that said company was anxious to complete its line of railroad to the Suwannee River at once, and that if the lands reserved for a railroad from Tallahassee through Taylor and Lafayette Counties were conveyed that the company would deposit fifty thousand dollars to be expended immediately in the construction of a line of railroad through said counties.

It appearing to the Board that the land applied for amounted to one hundred and ten thousand and fifty-four acres and sixty-eight one hundredths of an acre, and there being no guarantee that said company would expend more than the fifty thousand dollars, which it proposed to deposit, that proposition could not be entertained as its acceptance might defeat the purpose of the Board to have a railroad constructed through Taylor and Lafayette counties. After full consideration, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, The Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company has assured the Trustees of its purpose to complete its line of road from the present terminus to the Suwannee River without delay, and has requested a deed of conveyance to the lands heretofore reserved for a railroad to or through Taylar and Lafayette Counties, in this State.

"*And Whereas*, It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to use every effort to facilitate the completion of a line of railroad through Taylor and Lafayette Counties to the Suwannee River.

"*Therefore, Be it Resolved*, That the lands held in reserve for the benefit of a railroad to be constructed to or through the counties of Taylor and Lafayette will be conveyed to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company by two separate deeds, one for the lands in Taylor

county and one for the lands in Lafayette county, and said deeds of conveyance will be deposited in escrow with the First National Bank of Tallahassee to be delivered to said Railroad Company as follows:

"*1st.* When the railroad shall have been completed and in operation from Tallahassee to Perry, and the fact of such completion and operation shall have been duly reported upon by the State Engineer, accepted by the Board of Trustees, and certified to the First National Bank of Tallahassee by the Secretary of the Board, the deed to the lands lying and being in Taylor County shall be delivered to the Tallahassee South Eeastern Railroad Company.

"*2nd.* When the Railroad is completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River, reported upon, accepted and certified as above provided for the first deed, then the deed of conveyance to the lands in Lafayette county shall be delivered to said Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company. *Provided*, That at any time the said Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad may execute such guarantee bond or bonds, conditioned that the railroad shall be completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River, as will be satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, and upon the acceptance thereof the Board of Trustees will direct that the deed or deeds of conveyance then held in escrow by the First National Bank of Tallahassee be delivered to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company, *Provided further*, That the entire road must be completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River within two years from this date."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 5, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hon. W. Hunt Harris appeared before the Board and presented a claim of Horatio Crain to have eleven hundred and sixteen dollars and thirty-four cents, paid to the Trustees for certain swamp land in township sixty-five South of range thirty-three and thirty-four East, refunded, as the land had been conveyed by the United States Government after it had been patented to the State by the Act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, and the purchasers from the Trustees were unable to obtain possession under their title. Upon motion, the matter was referred to a committee consisting of the Attorney General and Commissioner of Agriculture, who presented the following report:

"Tallahassee, May 5th, 1899.

"Mr. W. M. McIntosh, Jr.,

"Dear Sir:—In accordance with a resolution adopted by the Trustees of the I. I. Fund, at a meeting held on this the 5th inst. in the Executive Office, we have the honor to report that the Internal Improvement Fund received from Lewis W. Pierce, $1,116.34 in payment of 1454.93 acres of lands which had been regularly patented as swamp lands by the United States to the State of Florida, under Act of Congress of Sept. 28th, 1850; these lands lie in T. 65 S. R. 34 and 33 E. and are embraced in entries and deeds numbered respectively 12,877, 12,900, 12,911, 12962, 12,979, 12,981 made in 1884 and 1885; and we transmit herewith the quitclaim deed from W. T. Hurd and wife to the State of Florida, for the lands mentioned in the above deeds, and a certificate from the Clerk of Court of Monroe County showing chain of title from the State down to Hurd, also a quit claim from Horatio Crain and wife to the State of Florida, and a certificate of the Clerk of Court showing the title from the State down to Crain.

"These papers should be placed of record among the proceedings of the I. I. Board and returned to the State Land Office, after which the Board will quit-claim all of these lands to the United States, and ask indemnity therefor.

"Respectfully,

"L. B. WOMBWELL, "W. B. LAMAR,
"Commissioner of Agriculture. "Attorney General.

After considering the report of the committee, and examining the certificate and deeds referred to in the report, it was ordered that the sum of eleven hundred and sixteen dollars and thirty-four cents ($1116.34) be refunded to Horatio Crain in his own right and for William T. Hurd from whom he presented the following authority covering the lands re-conveyed by said Hurd to the Trustees:

"This is to authorize Horatio Crain, of Key West, Fla., or his agent, to deliver three quit-claim deeds executed by me and Helen Hurd, my wife, to the "The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida," and "The State Board of Education" of Florida, and to receive the consideration named in said conveyance, of this date, viz: the sum of one thousand and sixteen 91-100 dollars and six 96-100 dollars accrued interest thereon."

"Given under my hand and seal at Detroit, Michigan, this fifth day of October, 1898.

"WILLIAM T. HURD, (SEAL).

"Hon. W. Hunt Harris is hereby authorized to surrender deeds and receive and transmit said funds to me.

"HORATIO CRAIN," (Seal.)

"Key West, Fla., April 18th, 1899."

The deeds of re-conveyance and certificates of the Clerk of the Circuit Court referred to in the report of the Committee are as follows:

"THIS INDENTURE, made the seventh day of November in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight between Horatio Crain and Amelia Crain, his wife, of the City of Key West, County of Monroe and State of Florida, parties of the first part, and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, parties of the second part:

"WITNESSETH, That the said parties of the first part, in consideration of one hundred and eleven 40-100 dollars, lawful money of the United States, paid by the parties of the second part, do hereby remise, release and quit claim unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns forever, all their right, title and interest in and to lot numbered one of section twenty and lot numbered two of section twenty-one in township sixty-five South of range thirty-four East, in Monroe County, Florida, said title having been derived originally from the parties of the second part through Warrant No. 12962 dated December 5th, 1885, to Lewis W. Pierce, recorded in Monroe County Records, Liber "N" of Deeds, Page 528.

"Together with the appurtenances and all the estate and rights of the parties of the first part in and to said premises.

"TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above mentioned and described premises unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns forever.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

"HORATIO CRAIN. (Seal.)
"AMELIA CRAIN. (Seal.)

"In presence of
FRANK E. WELTERS.
J. M. TAYLOR."

"State of Florida.
City of Key West. }
County of Monroe.

"On the twelfth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight before me personally came Horatio Crain and Amelia Crain his wife to me known and known to me to be the individuals described in, and who executed the foregoing instrument and who acknowledged that they executed the same.

"Witness my hand and official seal on this the 12th day of November, A. D. 1898.

(Seal) "Geo. W. REYNOLDS,
"Clerk Ct. Ct.
"Monroe Co., Fla."

"THIS INDENTURE, made the twenty-eighth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight between William T. Hurd and Helen Hurd, his wife, of the City of Detroit, County of Wayne and State of Michigan, parties of the first part and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, parties of the second part.

"WITNESSETH, That the said parties of the first part, in consideration of one thousand and four 94-100 dollars, lawful money of the United States, paid by the parties of the second part, do hereby remise, release and quit claim unto the said parties of the second part their heirs and assigns forever, all that land lying and being in the county of Monroe and State of Florida described as follows:

"Lots numbered one (1) and two (2) section twenty-four (24); Lots numbered one (1) two (2) three (3) four (4) five (5) and six (6) of section twenty-five (25); Lots one (1) two (2) and three (3) of section twenty-six (26); Lot one (1) section twenty-seven (27); Lots one (1) and two (2) section thirty-one (31); Lots one (1) and two (2) section thirty-three (33); Lots one (1) two (2) three (3) and four (4) of section thirty-four (34); Lots one (1) and two (2) of section thirty-five (35) all in Township sixty-five (65) South, Range thirty-three (33) East.

"Also Lot one (1) of section nine (9); Lots one (1) and two (2) section nineteen (19); Lots two (2) three (3) and four (4) section twenty (20) Lot one (1) section thirty (30); all in township sixty-five (65) South range thirty-four (34) East.

"Said lands having been conveyed to Lewis W. Pierce by said parties of the second part, as of record in the Monroe County (Florida) Records, Book "N," Pages 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529 and 530.

"Together with the appurtenances and all the estate and rights of the parties of the first part in and to said premises.

"TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above mentioned and described premises unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns forever.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

WILLIAM T. HURD. (Seal.)
HELEN HURD. (Seal.)

In presence of
JOHN H. PLUMER,
FREDERICK H. REISENER,

"State of Michigan, }
City of Detroit, }
County of Wayne. }

"On the twenty-ninth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight before me personally came William T. Hurd and Helen Hurd, his wife, to me known and known to me to be the individuals described in, and who executed the foregoing instrument and who severally acknowledged that they executed the same.

"JOHN H. PLUMER,
"Notary Public, Wayne County, Michigan.
"Notarial Acknowledgment."

"No. 1261.

State of Michigan, }
County of Wayne. }

"I, Henry M. Reynolds, Clerk of said County. and Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Wayne, which is a court of record, having a seal.

"DO HEREBY CERTIFY. That John H. Plumer whose name is subscribed to the certificate or proof of acknowledgment of the annexed instrument. and therein written. was, at the time of taking such proof or acknowledgment, a Notary Public in and for said county, duly commissioned and qualified and duly authorized to take the same; and further, That I am well acquainted with the handwriting of such Notary Public, and verily believe that the signature to the said certificate or proof of acknowledgment is genuine. I further certify that said instrument is executed and acknowledged according to the laws of this State.

"IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court and County, at Detroit, this 29th day of Nov. A. D. 1898.

(Seal.) "HENRY M. REYNOLDS, Clerk.
"By JOHN C. STAHL, Deputy Clerk."

"THIS IS TO CERTIFY that all the lands in Township 65, South of Range 33 East and Township 65 South of Range 34 East conveyed to Lewis W. Pierce by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and the State Board of Education, Entries numbered 13,693, 12,877, 12,900, 12,911, 12,962, 12,979. 12,980. and 1853 (School Land) and recorded in Book "N." Monroe County Records, Pages 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530 and 621, were sold at Sheriff's Sale by virtue of several writs of execution issued out of the Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida in and for the County of Monroe, and conveyed by Sheriff's Deed dated July 8th, 1889, to George W. Allen of Key West, Fla., and recorded in Book "Q," Pages 304-305 and 306; and I also certify that George W. Allen and his wife, Leonore X. Allen, by instrument dated December 23d, 1890, conveyed to William T. Hurd of Detroit, Michigan, all the aforesaid lands, as appears of record in Monroe County Records Book "PP," Page 262, saving and excepting, Lot numbered one, section twenty and Lot two, section twenty-one (Duck Key) in township 65 South of Range 34 east. And this is further to certify that there is nothing else of record as to this chain of title and that said lands are not of record subject to any liens or encumbrances whatever for taxes or otherwise due to the acts of oversight of said Lewis W. Pierce, George W. Allen or William T. Hurd.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court of Monroe County, Florida, this the 14th day of October, 1898.

"GEORGE W. REYNOLDS,
(Seal) "Clerk Ct. Ct. Monroe Co., Fla.

"This is to certify that this abstract is correct at this date.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court of Monroe County, Florida, this 19th day of April, 1899.

"GEORGE W. REYNOLDS,
(Seal.) "Clerk Ct. Ct. Monroe Co., Fla."

"THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Lot one of section 20, and Lot two of section 21, in township 65 South of range 34 east conveyed to Lewis W. Pierce by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida by warrant No. 12962—dated Dec. 5, 1885, and recorded in Liber "N" of Deeds, Page 528, Monroe County Records, were sold at Sheriff's sale, with other lands, by

virtue of several writs of execution issued out of the Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida in and for the County of Monroe, and conveyed by Sheriff's deed, dated July 8. 1889, to George W. Allen. and recorded in Book Q of Deeds, Pages 304-305 and 306, and George W. Allen and wife, Leonore X., by quit-claim deed, dated Nov. 20, 1889, conveyed of the above lots one two. with other lands, a one-third undivided interest to Julia A. Dennis of Tryon City, North Carolina, and a two-thirds undivided interest in the same, with other lands, to Thomas Dennis, of Mobile, Alabama, as recorded Nov. 20, 1889, in Monroe County Records, Pages 401, 402, 403.— And said Julia A. Dennis (now Julia A. Nilis) and Justin Nilis, her husband, conveyed by quit claim deed, dated Oct. 17, 1898, the aforesaid one-third undivided interest in said lots one and two, and in other lands, to Horatio Crain, as of record Nov. 7, 1898, Book S of Deeds, pages 717 and 718; and Thomas Dennis conveyed by quit claim deed, dated Oct. 12, 1898, the aforesaid two-thirds undivided interest in said lots one and two, and in other lands, to Horatio Crain, as recorded Nov. 7, 1898, in Book S of Deeds, pages 716 and 717, Monroe County records; and I further certify that there is nothing further of record as to this chain of title, and that said lands are not of record subject to any liens or encumbrances whatever for taxes or otherwise due to the acts, or oversight of Lewis W. Pierce, George W. Allen, Thomas Dennis, Julia A. Dennis (now Julia A. Nilis), or Horatio Crain.

"Witness my hand and official seal this the 19th day of April A. D. 1899.

"GEO. W. REYNOLDS,

(Seal.) "Clerk Ct. Ct."

An account of John McDougall, P. M., for postage for the Salesman's Office, amounting to $24.40 was presented and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 19, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Hons. C. A. Carson and J. W. Watson appeared before the Board *in re* filling up of canal connecting East Lake Tohopekaliga with Lake Tohopekaliga and after discussing the matter it was ordered by the Board that the Secretary send the following communication to the A. & G. C. C. & O. L. Co.:

"The Atlantic and Gulf Coast Canal and Okeechobee Land Company,

"Philadelphia, Pa.

"Gentlemen: I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to call your attention to the condition of certain parts of the canals in the vicinity of St. Cloud and East Tohopekaliga, and urge the necessity for immediate action on the part of your Company in order that the overflow of the lands on said lake, and the lands of Shaker community, may be stopped and prevented hereafter.

"It appears that the canal leading from East Tohopekaliga, to Lake Tohopekaliga, and near the Shaker Colony, has filled in to such an extent as to prevent the free flow of water, and the waters of East Lake Tohopekaliga are thereby forced out of its banks and several innocent purchasers from your company have been forced to abandon the cultivation of the land upon which they had made large expenditures of money. The necessary work can now be done at comparatively small cost to your company, but each day's delay adds to the difficulty and increases the quantity of earth to be removed, hence prompt action is imperative as the advantages obtained by the opening of the canals will be practically destroyed. That is a condition that your company can not afford to permit as it would depreciate the value of the lands now owned

by the Company as well as do serious harm to those who have purchased lands from you in good faith.

"A prompt reply is respectfully requested.

"Yours very truly,

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

"Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

The following bills were ordered paid: The Weekly Tallahasseean $3.50; John M. Lee, Clerk Circuit Court Osceola County, $4.95; B. B. Wilson, Clerk Supreme Court, $13.35.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 30, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar. Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Secretary of the Board presented a copy of the resolutions adopted May 2nd, 1899, directing the issue of deeds of conveyance to the Talahassee South Eastern Railroad Company to be placed in escrow with the receipt for said deeds annexed, and the same was ordered spread upon the minutes.

"*Whereas.* The Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company has assured the Trustees of its purpose to complete its line of road from the present terminus to the Suwannee River without delay, and has requested a deed of conveyance to the lands heretofore reserved for a railroad to or through Taylor and Lafayette counties, in this State.

"*And Whereas.* It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to use every effort to facilitate the completion of a line of railroad through Taylor and Lafayette Counties to the Suwannee River.

"*Therefore, Be it Resolved,* That the lands held in reserve for the benefit of a railroad to be constructed to or

through the counties of Taylor and Lafayette will be conveyed to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company by two separate deeds, one for the lands in Taylor County and one for the lands in Lafayette County, and said deeds of conveyance will be deposited in escrow with the First National Bank of Tallahassee to be delivered to said Railroad Company as follows:

"1st. When the railroad shall have been completed and in operation from Tallahassee to Perry, and the fact of such completion and operation shall have been duly reported upon by the State Engineer, accepted by the Board of Trustees, and certified to the First National Bank of Tallahassee by the Secretary of the Board, the deed to the lands lying and being in Taylor County shall be delivered to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company.

"2nd. When the railroad is completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River, reported first deed, then the deed of conveyance to the lands in Laupon, accepted and certified as above provided for the fayette county shall be delivered to said Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company. *Provided*. That at any time the said Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad may execute such guarantee bond or bonds, conditioned that the railroad shall be completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River, as will be satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, and upon the acceptance thereof the Board of Trustees will direct that the deed or deeds of conveyance then held in escrow by the First National Bank of Tallahassee be delivered to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company. *Provided further*. That the entire road must be completed and in operation from Tallahassee to the Suwannee River within two years from this date.

"I certify that the above resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, held on the 2nd day of May, A. D. 1899.

"W. M. McINTOSH, JR.,

(Seal.)

Secretary Board of Trustees I. I. Fund of Florida."

"Tallahassee, Fla., May 23, '99.

"Received, Tallahassee, Florida, May 23, 1899, of the Board of Trustees at the expiration of two years if the the State of Florida, at the hands of W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary of said Board, two deeds of conveyance under the terms of the within resolution and subject to the conditions thereof; said deeds are

No. 15,481 for 91,718.28 acres.

No. 15,482 for 18,336.40 acres.

"Said deeds, or if one be delivered to the said Railroad Company then the remaining deed, to be returned to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of terms of the resolution are not fully complied with.

"GEO. LEWIS,
"Prest. 1st Nat. Bk. Tallahassee."

Hon. J. N. Whitner applied to purchase certain surveyed and unsurveyed land in township 20 South of Range 21 East, for S. O. Chase, Alexander Vaughan and Florence Beard all at fifty cents per acre, and the Salesman was authorized to sell the land at the price stated.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 5, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mr. R. L. Bennett appeared before the Board on behalf of the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company and stated that if said Company could be allowed to sell certain land, as per list presented, embraced in one of the deeds held in escrow for said company, that the company would execute such agreement as would protect the Trustees and be satisfactory to the First National Bank,

where the deed was held in escrow, and that the Company would proceed at once to construct its line of railroad, using the proceeds of such sale, and other funds, which will at once become available for use by said Company.

After considering the request of Mr. Bennett, and with a desire to hasten the construction of the railroad, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Trustees will consent to the conveyance of 18,408.19 acres of land to the Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company out of the lands covered by one of the deeds of conveyance executed under resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees May 2nd, 1899, and now held in escrow by the First National Bank of Tallahassee upon the payment of fifty cents per acre, in cash, which is to be held in escrow subject to the same conditions as are contained in the resolution of May 2d, 1899. *Provided,* That the said Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company shall execute such agreement as will protect the Trustees and be satisfactory to the First National Bank of Tallahassee."

The account of Frank Hough for examining claim of settlers on main land south of township 58 at Cape Sabal, under the directions of the Board, amounting to two hundred and forty dollars ($240.00) was presented and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 23, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

A letter from Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, Attorneys, stating that the suit of the Trustees against the Florida

Railroad and the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad for Sinking Fund under the Internal Improvement Act of 1855 had been dismissed without prejudice, was presented, and read to the Board.

Upon motion, it was ordered that the sum of two hundred and eighty dollars and forty-five cents ($280.45) for balance of Attorney's fees and expenses, as per bill rendered by Messrs. Cooper and Cooper, be paid by the Treasurer of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 27, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Judge B. S. Liddon appeared before the Board on behalf of his clients, Dr. A. B. Hawkins et als., and requested permission to use the name of the Board in proceedings against the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company to recover the principal of certain bonds issued by said Company, and it was

"*Resolved*, That Judge B. S. Liddon be and is hereby permitted and authorized to use the name of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida in any suit or proceedings to be conducted by him against the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company to recover the principal of certain bonds issued by said Company, *provided*, that the Trustees shall not be held responsible for any costs or expenses in connection with such suit or proceedings."

It was ordered that the expenses of Judge B. S. Liddon in visiting Tallahassee at the request of the Board, for consultation, amounting to $17.70, be paid by the Treasurer of the Board.

Bill of First National Bank for rent of box in vault, $10.00, was also ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., July 7, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following communication, together with the certified copy of the resolution therein referred to, was presented to the Board and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"St. Augustine, Fla., July 1, 1899.

"Mr. W. M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary Board of Internal Improvement Fund, Tallahassee, Florida.

"Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find certified copy of Resolution passed this day by the Stockholders of this Company. Please let me know if this complies with the law and is satisfactory to your Board.

"Fours truly,

"H. GAILLARD,
'Secretary."

"Certified copy of Resolution passed at a meeting of the Stockholders of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company at St. Augustine, Florida, Saturday July 1st, 1899.

"*Resolved*, That the Stockholders of this Company hereby accept the condition of an act passed by the Legislature of the State of Florida, extending the time for the completion of the Canal for four (4) years from June 1, 1899, and the Secretary is hereby authorized to send

a certified copy of this resolution to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida."

"H. GAILLARD,
Secretary Fla. C. L. Canal & Trans. Co."

"A true copy."

Accounts were presented and ordered paid as follows:

John McDougall, Postmaster, for postage in June, 1899, for Salesman's Office, eleven dollars and seventy cents ($11.70).

Weekly Tallahasseean, for 800 copies of the report of Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, forty-five dollars and thirty-five cents ($45.35).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., August 11, 1899

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Governor being absent, the Comptroller was requested to act as President.

Ex-Governor F. P. Fleming appeared before the Board on behalf of the South Western Railroad Company and stated that said Company was prepared to comply with the terms of the Act of the Legislature of 1899, Chapter 4845 of the Laws of Florida, approved May 24th, 1899, which provides:

"Section 1. That the said South Western Railroad Company, upon compliance with Section 3 of this Act, shall be and it is hereby authorized to abandon the said line of railroad from Green Cove Springs to Melrose, and to take up, remove and otherwise dispose of the rails and other property of said Company, except the lands thereof.

"Section 2. That all grants to the Green Cove Springs and Melrose Railroad Company, and the Western Railway Company of Florida, of which the said South West-

ern Railroad Company is the successor, by or under the general law, or by Special Act of the Legislature of the State of Florida, which have not yet been conveyed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to the said companies, or either of them, shall be and the same are hereby revoked and annulled.

"Section 3. That all lands heretofore conveyed to said companies, or either of them, by the said Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, which have not been conveyed by said companies, or either of them, to other parties, shall be re-conveyed by said South Western Railroad Company to the said Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

"Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Governor."

Ex-Governor Fleming also stated that the South Western Railroad Company had agreed to sell a part of the lands heretofore conveyed to it by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, and that if agreeable to the Board said company would turn over the proceeds of sale of said land and reconvey the balance of the land now held by it in compliance with Section 3 of the Act of 1899.

After a full consideration, it was decided by the Board of Trustees that the offer of the South Western Railroad Company, as made by Ex-Governor Fleming, be accepted, and that upon the payment of the proceeds of the sale of the land contracted to be sold by said Company, and a re-conveyance of all the remaining land held by said Company at the time of the pasage of the Act of 1899, that the terms of said Act would be fully complied with.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., ...

Secretary. President pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., October 18, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The Treasurer of the Board stated that on August 18th 1899, he had received and receipted for nine hundred and ninety dollars ($990.00) from the South Western Railroad Company at the hands of Fleming and Fleming, Attorneys, in payment for the land disposed of under authority of the Board granted August 11th, 1899, and the Salesman reported that the deeds of re-conveyance as required by Section 3, of the act of 1899, Chapter 4845, of the Laws of Florida, had been executed by the South Western Railroad Company and delivered to him.

The Treasurer of the Board also reported that he had purchased the following bonds for the amounts stated, and his action was approved: Six (6) Jefferson County Bonds Nos. 10, 11, 89, 98 and 114 of $500.00 each, for three thousand dollars, and three Madison County bonds Nos. 50, 80 and 85 of the denoination of $500.00 each, with coupons 13 to 25 attached, for fifteen hundred and fifteen dollars ($1,515.00).

One (1) Colubia County Bond No. 66 of the denomination of $500.00, and three Columbia County Bonds Nos. 198, 199 and 200, of the denomination of $250.00 each, with coupon No. 30 attached, for twelve hundred and eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents ($1,287.50).

Three (3) Leon County Bonds Nos. 36, 42 and 58 of the denomination of $500.00 each, with coupons 17 to 19 attached, for fifteen hundred and sixty dollars ($1,560.00.)

All of said bonds and coupons were then presented and canceled.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

"*Whereas,* The Tallahassee South Eastern Railroad Company failed to comply with the terms of the resolution adopted by the Board June 5th, 1899; therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That the resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida on June 5th, 1899, in the atter of the conveyance of 18,408.19 acres of land upon certain conditions be and the same is hereby rescinded and declared to be null and void."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 22, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
William B. Lamar, Attorney General.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following accounts were presented and ordered paid:

J. O. Fries, for services in examining route for canal from the St. Johns River to Indian River, forty-three dollars and thirty cents, ($43.30); John McDougall, Post Master, for postage for Salesman's Office, one hundred and two dollars and forty cents ($102.40); J. G. Collins, Proprietor Tallahasseean, for printing for Salesman's Office, twenty-two dollars ($22.00).

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary. W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 4, 1899.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.
William H. Reynolds, Comptroller.
James B. Whitfield, State Treasurer.
L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following report was presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

"Titusville, Fla., Nov. 18th, 1899.

"To His Excellency, W. D. Bloxham,
"Governor of the State of Florida.

"Sir: I hereby respectfully submit to you my report of an examination of the feasibility of a canal from a point on or near Lake Washington on the upper part of St. Johns to a point on Indian River. This examination was made in compliance with a letter from your Excellency to me, dated Tallahassee, October 28th, 1899.

"Although I had a general idea of the topography of the land to be examined, my knowledge of the same was not sufficient to base my report upon, wherefore I in accordance with your instructions proceeded to the neighborhood of Lake Washington for a more careful examination.

"I left Titusville for Pineda Railroad Station and Bovine Settlement, on Friday, November 10th.

"Saturday 11th and Monday 13th November I spent in locating section lines and corners in the vicinity East and North East of Lake Washington. I found the maps very inaccurate, the land lines very dim and most every corner missing.

"Having thus received a sufficient knowledge of the topography of the land I proceeded to make a preliminary location of the canal.

"On Tuesday Nov. 14th, and Wednesday 15th, I proceeded to lay out two lines from the North East part of Lake Washington, one to Horse Creek, emptying into Indian River in section 5, Township 27 So., Rge. 37 East, the other to Elbow Creek, emptying into Indian River at Eau Gallie, Section 16, same township and range.

"Both these lines are favorable for locating of the canal, both about 3½ miles long, which one is the best will depend upon a careful survey. The fall is about 19 feet.

"In order to avoid any posible complaint against any injury to the navigation of the St. Johns River I propose to dig a very wide canal (about 100 feet) but very shallow, making the average stage of water in Lake Washington level with the bottom of the canal where it leaves said lake. Wherever the lake therefore is at its average

height or below the same, not a drop of water will be taken from St. Johns River.

"It is only when the water in the river raises above its average height that the water commences to flow in the canal increasing the volume of water carried away with increasing height of water in St. Johns River. Such a canal would have the advantage over a narrow deep canal, that it is easily maintained, cheaper to build, less dangerous to stock and less liable to wash.

"Any objection from fishermen on Indian River that the flow of fresh water into this river would damage the fishing industry would be of no weight. Comparing the volume of water carried into Indian River by this canal with the large volumes emptied by all the numerous creeks and rivers, that naturally flow into Indian River, I find that it is a very small fraction and amounts to a mere nothing. From a rough calculation I find that it would take a daily flow in the canal to the utmost of its capacity (about 150 million cubic feet per day) about 50 days to raise the river north of the inlet at Fort Pierce one foot. As the high status of flow in St. Johns River never lasts as long as that; and at the same time the Fort Pierce or Indian River inlet is capable of carrying off many times as much water and a new inlet is being opened at a point opposite Sebastian, it seems to me rather ridiculous to claim that the water carried from St. Johns River to Indian River by means of this proposed canal should injure the fishing either by raising the water or lessen the saltiness of the water in the same. On the other hand the benefit to cattle owners near Lake Washington would be very great, lessening the losses now caused by the extreme floods and redeeming for cultivation thousands of acres of some of the richest possible quality.

"I do not in this report give any figures about the probable cost of building this canal; as that I understand is the exclusive business of Hon. J. N. Whitner.

"On Thursday Nov. 16th, I was joined by this gentleman and took him over the ground and showed him the proposed lines, I am glad to state that he was well pleased with the prospects.

"Friday Nov. 17th, I returned to Titusville.

"I enclose a bill for my services.

"I remain yours very much respectfully,

"J. O. FRIES, C. E.,

"County Surveyor of Brevard Co., Fla."

The Secretary of the Board was directed to write Hon. J. N. Whitner as follows:

"I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to inform you that the report of Mr. J. O. Fries, the Engineer appointed to make preliminary investigations *in re* canal from Lake Washington in the direction of Indian River. has been received and duly considered and that additional information is being sought through other channels in order that the Board may arrive at a proper understanding of the subject. You can rest assured that a decision will be reahced at as early day as possible."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. M. McINTOSH, JR., Secretary.

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

I, William M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages contain true and correct copies of the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, as appears of record in Volumes 4 and 5, of the official minutes of the Board; containing the minutes of each meeting held, as recorded, beginning with the meeting held on January 9th, A. D. 1889, and ending with the meeting held on December 4th, A. D. 1899, which said Volumes 4 and 5 are now in my official custody.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, this the seventeenth day of December, A. D. Nineteen hundred and four.

W. M. McIntosh, Jr.
Secretary Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

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